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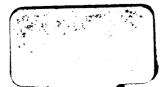
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INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

H U S S A R S, \mathfrak{G}^{c} .

Printed by C. Roworth, Hudson's Court, Strand.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

HUSSARS

AND

LIGHT CAVALRY

ACTING AS SUCH,

IN TIME OF WAR.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL, By G. H. ROSE, Esq. M. P.

THE SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR T. EGERTON, AT THE MILITARY LIBRARY, NEAR WHITEHALL.

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PREFACE.

THE real Importance of the Services to be derived from Light Cavalry acting as Hussars, is fufficiently proved by the circumstance of the Augmentation of their Numbers, in the Armies of the Continent, having gone hand in hand with the most effential Improvements in the Science of modern War. The great Frederick, on his accession to the throne, had but 720 Hussars; at his death, his troops of that description amounted to between 15 and 16,000 horsemen. They are universally allowed to combine powerful means of feconding both offensive and defensive operations in the field; of misleading, harrasting, and annoying, an enemy, in a multiplicity of ways; of gaining information, upon which the movements of an army may be grounded; and of giving security to those movements whilst making.

We know, that they form a confiderable part

part of the strength of the enemy, and to which it is evident that a force of the same nature must be opposed; yet it so happens, that there is not in our language, any distinct treatife which affords adequate Instructions for the Duty of Light Cavalry when in the Field. Such indeed are to be collected from different modern military works, in which however they are either mixed up with a variety of other matter, or the books themselves are too voluminous, and expensive, to have come into general use. This confideration alone has induced the translator to offer to the Public the following Instructions, which are to be confidered as elementary, but which perhaps, as far as they go, will be found to be sufficiently correct.

These Instructions (which came into his hands in manuscript) were drawn up for, and conformed to by a body of troops highly distinguished for its good conduct in one of the confederate armies. The Compiler of them is understood to have had access to those upon which the Austrian Hussars act; and they contain large extracts from some excellent "Provisional"

visional Regulations for the Field Duty of the French Cavalry" printed in 1788. Use has been occasionally made of Count Turpin's Essai sur l'Art de la Guerre; and many ideas, and, in fome places, nearly whole paragraphs occur in them, which are to be found in the King of Prussia's Instructions to his Light Cavalry. They are in general more detailed than the King of Prussia's, but wherever they may have omitted any thing effential contained in his, it is subjoined in a note. A few notes also have been selected from such parts of Lindenau's Treatife upon Winter Posts as were applicable. A treatife of this fort should be a compilation of fuch ideas alone, as experience has either fuggested or fanctioned; and the following work appears to have attained that object: It has now received the most flattering testimony to its utility from the highest authority on military matters.*

As the precepts here laid down are purely practical, the greatest fimplicity of style has

been

^{*} Vide his Majesty's Regulations for the Cavalry, 1799, p. 362.

been adopted, in order that it may be impossible to misunderstand the meaning intended to be conveyed; and a foreign idiom has been allowed to prevail in some places, where our own was less adequate to present the precise idea offered by the original.

The last chapter of the first part has not been excepted from the Translation, although it may not in some respects agree with rules laid down in our Service; it was thought, there was at least no harm in retaining it, as the regulations, it contains, are useful and practical. Some of the duties, treated of in the latter chapters of the second part, are not peculiar to the Hussar officer, and have been very frequently descanted on; but as he is often employed upon them, the omission of the consideration of them would not have been allowable.

ERRATUM.

In page 134, line 26, for but must read but you must.

Printed by G. Rowerth, Endfon's Court, Strand.

PART I.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

HUSSARS

IN

TIME OF WAR.

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INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

CHAPTER I.

Instructions for the Hussars, who are dispersed as Skirmishers; or as Scouts* on the Flanks, in the Front, or with the Rear Guard of the Body of Troops, in which they act.

THE hussars must be taught, subdivision by subdivision, their duty as skirmishers.

At the word, Skirmishers to the Front, those previously told off for that duty advance, and form in the front in rank entire, those from the right on the right, and those from the left

The term of feners, is constantly used in our old military books in this sense.—We have perhaps no adequate word in modern use.

on

on the left, and in succession, so that each man from the rear rank shall place himself on the left of his file leader. The whole will thus be on one rank, with more or less space between each man according to the front to be covered.

At the word March, the hussars will set off at a trot, draw their swords, letting them hang on their wrists, draw their pistols, and when within shot, begin to fire one after another, taking care that there shall be a distance of five or fix paces between each man. If they are opposed to a body drawn up, they must endeavour to get near the enemy before they fire, or to cut down the officer or the flank man. If they are opposed to other skirmishers, they must spare their horses, not fire at too great a distance, and always endeavour to cut off their antagonists.—When the Retreat is founded, the front rank must retreat at a full trot, each man facing to the left about, and march as far as fifty paces in the rear of the rear rank; it must then halt, and each man go to the right about. Then these of the rear rank will fire twice with good aim, leaving

leaving a short interval between the two discharges. During this time the husiars must be moving their horses about gently to the right and left, that the enemy may not take aim at them.—When the rear rank has fired twice, it must retreat as the front rank did.

At the first call all the skirmishers must halt; those of the front rank must fire their second pistol with good aim in succession. The officers will give no word of command, only they will hinder as far as possible their hussars from getting too near the enemy, lest confusion should ensue, or the skirmishers be cut off by a body of the enemy.

In all cases, as soon as the signal to march is sounded, the hussars will face towards the enemy, march forwards, and form in rank entire.

In retreating, the huffars should never fire, but when in the front rank, i. e. that nearest the enemy. As soon as they have fired, they should fall back and reload while retreating.

At the first call, either when advancing or retreating, they must always halt; and at the second, the subdivisions must form immediately to their own center. If after the second, a third call is sounded, the troops having rallied will wheel about, the even subdivisions to the lest, and the odd ones to the right, and join their squadron by that evolution. As soon as the skirmishers shall have formed their subdivisions, the firing shall cease, and they must carry their swords,

If, instead of the second call, the trumpet sounds to-Form, or to Rolly, each busiar shall retreat immediately behind his squadron, to form in subdivisions. This movement must be executed briskly, and by the straightost way.

If the whole, or the greatest part of the regiment is dispersed, the fignal must be sounded to form to the standards, in order to form it more expeditiously. The hussars must then assemble behind the standards, or behind the field officers; this must be done at a full trot. If the officers observe any hussar to be inattentive to the trumpets, they must mark him and have him punished on their return. Besides the attention to be paid to the trumpets, the slankers must frequently cast their eyes upon the body they are detached from, and, unless

less they have orders to the contrary, they must halt when it halts, turn to the right or left as it does; and retreat and halt without waiting to hear the trumpet, which cannot always be used. The flankers must always keep in line with one another as nearly as posfible, taking care that if they meet with a height, those who are opposite to it must ascend it brifkly, and there stop until the other flankers come up in line with them. The officer or non-commissioned officer who commands that part of the line of flankers, which is opposite to the height, must always ascend it himself. If the flankers find a valley or ravine before them, they must cross it rapidly, and ascend the height the other side. ' If they find a hedge or thicket before them, those opposite to it must halt, and those on each side of them must pass it, and observe whether there is any thing behind it; when they are certain there is nothing, those, who remained behind it, must go through or round it, and advance into line with the others; if they come to a small wood or coppice, the whole line must halt, to give time to those opposite to it, to go through, and

and explore it, whilst those on each side of it go round it. The same thing must be observed on coming to a village; but more time must be allowed to the slankers who are to explore it, in order that they may go into all the roads, have all the barns opened, in which they think troops might be concealed, and then place themselves on the other side of the village.

The hussars being well exercised in their duty as skirmishers, or flankers, they must be instructed in that which they will have to perform, when acting as fcouts, that is, when they march either before, or in the rear, or upon the flanks of a detachment, or of a patrole:-They must then keep an unremitted look-out upon every thing that passes in front of them, without losing fight of their main body, or of the other fcouts; they should halt, when it halts, and draw back, when it draws back. The fcouts fhould always endeavour to keep themselves concealed by hedges, bushes, or rising grounds, so as to see without being seen: sometimes they may escape the enemy's observation by laying on their horses necks. They should inform the body, from which

which they are fent, of every thing they may observe, and particularly of whatever troops they may discover within a certain distance, in order that the best mounted men may be sent to reconnoitre them. As they should never be sewer than two together, if they perceive the enemy, one of them must continue to watch him, whilst the other goes with the intelligence to the commanding officer. They must never fire but at the last extremity, and only when it is necessary to apprize their detachment, that a large body of men is advancing rapidly upon it, and when they have no other means of giving timely notice.

When they come to a village, one of them must stop at the first houses, and the other must endeavour to obtain intelligence from the country people; he must then advance into the village with precaution, as was enjoined to the slankers; and if there is no appearance of danger, he will call to him his comrade, who then will advance beyond the first hedges of the other side of the village, whilst the other returns to inform the commanding officer that he may pass in safety. Her who remains posted beyond the village, must take two of the coun-

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try people with him, as hostages for their being well disposed, and as guides in case such should be wanted by the officer who commands the detachment.

Should the scouts discover elevated grounds, from whence they may see a great extent of country, should these be even at a distance of four or five hundred paces from their detachment, they must advance to them with precaution, and ascend them slowly, examining by degrees whatsoever may be on the other side of those heights, before they expose themselves entirely to view. If they do not perceive any troops, they must remain quiet on the top of the hill, and then go down it at a foot's pace, which will give the commanding officer to understand, that nothing is in sight in that direction.

If they descry any body of men, they must quicken their pace, and one must set off at a gallop to give notice to the commanding officer.

The feouts of the rear guard must turn back, from time to time, and make their observations from the heights in the same manner, to know whether they are followed.

The scouts must be particularly careful in joining

joining their main body with the greatest rapidity if they hear two calls one after the other, or, when there is no trumpet, as soon as the signal, previously agreed upon, is made. During the night, they must listen with great attention, for which purpose they must stop every 25 paces, keeping the strictest silence; they must never be out of hearing of their main body, and they must be attentive to the different calls of the trumpet, or signals to join.

Besides the remarks which their eyes enable them to make, it is of importance that the scouts should gain intelligence from the country people, whom they meet, and the principal people of the villages; and that they should bring before their commanding officer, those who have it in their power to give information; such as those who may appear to conceal themselves by assuming the character of travellers, deserters, &c.

They must take great care to avoid ambuscades; if they meet one or two of the enemy's hussars running off, they must watch them without giving themselves up to the pursuit, for the presumption is, that they also are the seouts of some detachment. They must observe

the direction they take, that they may be able to inform the officer commanding their party, where they suspect the enemy to be. In such circumstances, the principal object being to gain knowledge of the enemy, the scouts must both avoid coming to blows with him, and being seen by him themselves. If their detachment is attacked, they must support it boldly, but must not let themselves be cut off.

If they find themselves too hard pressed, they must retreat to their main body; they must affift one another, and never yield as long as their comrades can succour them, unless they are dangerously wounded, or their horses killed. They must never tire their horses to no pur-. pose, or make false reports. If one of them is cut off from his detachment, he should hide in the woods till night, and then return by bye ways, avoiding villages and high roads as much as possible; he must live upon the bread, which he ought to have about him, and fuffer hunger rather than go into a village; he must give his horse grass in the fields; and if he is obliged to ask for directions as to the roads, he must go to shepherds, or lone houses for them.

CHAP.

CHAPTER II.

Instructions for the Hussars, who are to be placed as Vedets.

THE hustars having learnt, and having been exercised in their duty as skirmishers and scouts, they must be instructed in what they will have to do when upon the grand guard.

They must then be taken in hand, subdivifion by subdivision; and care must be had, that they are provided with picket posts, ropes, and some mallets. Whilst one half of the subdivision is exercised in tying their horses to the picket posts, the other half must be exercised in their duty as vedets, in the following order.

Before the vedets and sentinels leave the post, the corporal of it must parade them, that the commanding officer may see that they are completely equipped, and that their arms are loaded: they will march off, led by the corporal, whose sword will be drawn; the vedets will follow two by two, their carbines advanced.

vanced. They must on no account whatever quit the corporal, and must follow him to all the spots, where he places a vedet. The corporal must first relieve the vedets, who are the most advanced. Those who are relieved must follow him back to the post, and none of them must alight, or lay aside their arms, until the corporal shall have brought them before the officer, and the latter shall have dismissed The vedets and fentries shall give the counterfign, to those who relieve them, in presence of their corporal; and he shall advance alone to hear them; such as are not already placed, must halt four paces behind him. No vedet or fentry shall ever allow himself to be relieved but by the corporal of his detachment.

The vedets and fentries must keep a constant look out on all sides, that they may discover every thing that passes around them, and give notice by calling, or by signs, if they descry either troops, or a number of persons coming towards them. The vedets will stop all drums and trumpets, coming from the enemy; and will apprize the commanding officer officer of the guard, as foon as they discover them.

If before the corporal comes up to reconnoine, the troops or horiemen, whom the vedets shall have descried, are arrived within hearing, they shall call out Stand Fast; and should they advance without obeying a second order to halt, the vedets must fire, and fall back on their post, if they run any risk of being cut off.*

A hussar, placed as a vedet, must never alight, quit his arms, set down, read, sing, or even speak to any one without it is necessary.

When two vedets are placed together, they must never talk to each other, but upon what relates to their duty; they must always face towards the enemy, but inclining outwards from each other, so as to have the most comprehensive view; and when any troops appear, one must return to apprize the guard,

* If during the night any troops should approach, above three in number, though they should answer properly, the vedet must not suffer them to advance, till he has reported to his officer, who will cause them to be examined.

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and the other must remain on the watch to observe them.

If one of the two deserts, the other must fire upon him, and inform the guard of the circumstance.

Every vedet, who shall be discovered to have acted contrary to orders, on any one of these articles, or shall have neglected demanding or answering the countersign, must be severely punished, when the guard is relieved.

Every vedet shall have his carbine hooked on to his belt; he must advance his carbine, whenever any officer or troops pass before him, or when the enemy is so near as to render it necessary; except in these cases, he may lay it across his horse's neck.

However bad the weather may be, the vedets must never put up the hoods of their cloaks.

CHAP-

CHAPTER III.

Instructions respecting Forages.

THE hustars must be instructed in green and dry foraging, conformably to what follows:

When a forage is to be made, there must always be an escort for the foragers. It must be composed of two hussars with their arms from each troop, and must be commanded by a cornet.

Each hustar of this escort must carry a shovel or pick-axe with him, in order to open communications, if that be necessary. On foraging parties, the hustars must have their carbines hooked on to their belts.

The foragers will march by troops, led by their officers; each two, or four of them, according to the orders given out, must carry a scythe ready for use. Servants must march with the troops to which their masters belong, following the hussars, and in the same order.

The vedets being placed, the foragers shall alight, shall leave their horses collected toge-

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ther, without the ground from which the forage is to be taken, lest it should be spoilt, and shall pile their carbines near their horses; the mowers shall then go upon the ground marked out for them, and shall mow it without loss of time, taking care to cut close, so as to leave nothing standing.

They will then be brille in making up their truffes; go for their horfes, and as fast as they have loaded them, they will file off, and return to camp or quarters, wishout deviation: from the road affigned them, and without waiting for those of other corps. The officers of the respective troops must be that all this is performed, and will form the rear guard of their troops. The commanding officer present of each regiment will have a trumpeter with him; and he will give notice to the foragers of his regiment of the particular call at which they must assemble, and join their horses. foraging party is attacked, the cornet must cover it with the escort, and order it to retreat, or to complete the foraging, according to circumstances.

When a dry forage is to be made, the troops must

asuft march in the order just described. If they have not nime to have all the forage, which is required, carried out of the village, a husiar must be placed at each house as a fale-guard.

When the column of foragers arrives, the officers will go out to meet in, with the quarter-mafters; they will order the horses to be lest without the village, and will direct the quarter-mafters to lead the husiars, and servants, to the barns marked for each squadron and troop, that they may make up their trusses there.

The husiars must be positively forbid to enter into the houses, or any other places than the barns and lofts pointed out to them; to make openings either in the roofs or walls; to go into the gardens; or to do any fort of mischief whatsoever.

As foon as the truffes are made, the huffars and fervants must go for their horses, in order to load them; and as fast as they are loaded, they must file off, without waiting for one another, and return to camp, or quarters, by the straightest road.

Every

Every forager who shall get before those of his regiment, who shall separate from them, or, who shall act in disobedience to what is here enjoined, must be severely punished.

The hussars must be taught how to make up, and load their trusses, both in green, and dry foraging; they must be also shewn how to fasten the forage together with forage cords, and how to place it, and the corn, which they should carry with them, upon their horses.

CHAPTER IV.

Instructions for the Non-commissioned Officers, who are with the Skirmishers.

THE corporals of the subdivisions which are dispersed as skirmishers, will follow the injunctions given to the hussars, who act as such.

The serjeants must take care, that the principles laid down on that subject are put in practice. When the different subdivisions are to form, they must make the men keep their ranks with precision; they must take the command of the different small bodies, where there

arc

are no officers, as foon as they are collected; and with them, they must support their skirmissers, to hinder their being cut off, but without exposing themselves to a similar danger.

CHAPTER V.

Instructions for the Non-commissioned Officers, who command the advanced Guard, or the Patroles on the Flanks of a Body of Men.

As often as a body of men advances, it should have an advanced guard, and patroles on its stanks, proportioned to its strength.— In all cases the advanced guard must be preceded, and the rear guard must be followed, by a corporal having four or six hussars under him. The patroles on the slanks must be of the same force. Of these four or six hussars, two must serve as scouts, and must march either before, in the rear, or on the slank of the corporal, who will lead on the remaining two or four. The corporal* must have his sword

drawn,

[•] If the corporal's party belongs to the advanced guard, his scouts will of course go before him; if to the rear guard, they will keep in his rear; and if it is a flanking patrole, on that flank of it, which is furthest from the main party.

drawn, and kept at a distance of i 30 or 200 paces from the body, from which he is detached; he must make the scouts march at nearly the same distance from him, on the opposite side.

The corporal must keep in his eye both his fcouts, and the body he is detached from, so that he may always be able to follow the movements of the main body of his detachment, and also to advance briskly towards the scouts, if he perceives any thing. He must be attentive to every thing that passes around him.

In a close country, the corporals should have men in intermediary stations between them and the main body, that they may be always sure to know the direction it takes, and the movements it may make; in a country of that nature, they should always render their communication with their scouts secure, by placing intermediary hussars. At night, the distances above prescribed, must be shortened, so that they may be within call of one another; and if there is a fog, they must be within sight of each other. If the nature of the ground is such, as to oblige the corporal to disperse

more than two of his men as fecuts, in order to obtain a fufficient knowledge of the country he is marching through, he must do so; but he must always keep with him two of the best mounted, who will follow him, wherever he has to reconnoitre, so that he may send one of them to the commanding officer of his detachment, to inform him of whatever he may have discovered; and he must communicate all intelligence to that officer, without delay. As to the precautions to be taken by him, he must observe all those which have been one joined to the hussars.

If, when on the advanced guard, he comes to a defile, he must have it explored carefully, and will then pass through it at a quick pace; he will halt at about 150 paces on the other side of it, until he sees that his detachment has passed it. He will act in the same manner, when he has to pass through a village.

In retreating, when his detachment halts, he must face towards the enemy's skirmishers; and he must do the same while it is passing a desile, that he may have it in his power to charge every thing before him, whilst the main E body

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body of his detachment is in the act of passing; he will then go through the defile at a quick pace.

During halts, the patroles on the flanks must halt also, and must face to that side, which is opposite to their main body.

CHAPTER VI.

Respecting Non-commissioned Officers commanding detached Patroles.*

WHEN a corporal is fent to make a patrole in person, he must see that he is preceded, slanked, and followed (as has been already pointed out), by a number of scouts, proportioned to the force he has under him. In his march he shall observe strict silence, shall halt from time to time, particularly at cross roads, and shall constantly have an eye upon his scouts. In case of his receiving any important information, he should transmit it directly,

by

Non-commissioned officers, commanding patroles, must on no account suffer their men to dismount in order to drink, or plunder.

Lindenau.

by an intelligent man, to the corps from which he is detached. He must never enter any of the villages, through which he must pass, until he has had them thoroughly searched; and he must on no account make any stay in them. If obliged to pass a rivulet, a ravine, or a defile, he should stop, have the country explored, and not advance until it shall have been reconnoitred.

In a country overgrown with wood, he must employ intermediary men, left he should be separated from his scouts. The person, who commands a patrole, should see every thing with his own eyes. If he is able to examine the enemy closely, and without being discovered, he must watch him as attentively, and as long as he can, and must frequently send off intelligence. If the patrole is hard pushed by the enemy in front, its commander must retreat, but must keep his ground as long as he can when he comes to defiles, and mustfend off men to apprize the commander of the corps, from which he is detached, as foon as the patrole begins to skirmish with the enemy's advanced guard. He must take care to send

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off the worst horses with intelligence, that he may keep such men, as are best mounted, about him. If the patrole is obliged to bait, whilt on its march, the person, who commands it, must choose for that purpose the place, which best combines the advantages of concealing him effectually, and of enabling him to fee at the greatest distance every thing, which comes If he has no forage with him, towards him. he will order some to be taken in some village. and will carry it off with him, that he may bait in such place as he shall deem most suitable. Every time that he halts, he must endeavour to conceal himself, to be upon his guard fo as not to be furprifed, and to have the most extensive range for the eye.

He should examine the tracks, and form an idea of the number of troops, which have gone by any road, by the degree in which the ground or turf are trodden down. He should also judge by the dust, what number, and what kind of troops have passed. The dust raised by a body of cavalry lays high, and is light; that by infantry lays low, and is thick; and that raised by a train of baggage, partakes in its appearance

pearance of the two above mentioned. In judging of the direction in which the troops have marched, he must be led by the progress of the column of dust.

If a non-commissioned officer is detached with four or five men, with orders to flip one by one into places in which the enemy already is, he must never follow high, or beaten roads, but as far as the nature of the country will permit it, he must go by vallies, hollow roads, and places in which he can be concealed, though this may oblige him to deviate from the direction he is to take. If an open country can be discovered from the top of a tree, he must fend a man up it. Those, who in these cases discover the enemy, must not fire, but must give notice of it by histing, or by clapping their hands, so that if he intends to fall upon the detachment, they may retreat without being seen. A detachment of this nature must ftop all persons, such as wood-cutters, peafants, women, children, &c. who come near them, as long as they lay concealed. Such persons must not be spoken to, but must be treated well in other respects. When the detachment tachment is about to profecute its march, they must be set at liberty, but it must not go forwards until they are out of sight. If the commander of a patrole is surprized in the night time by the enemy, in superior numbers, he must charge them without hesitation, and then retreat. The enemy, not knowing the strength of his patrole, will then advance with greater precaution; and he will thus gain time to apprize the corps, to which he belongs.

In night patroles the same precautions must be observed, with respect to the distances and the silence to be kept, as have been already enjoined to the advanced guards, and the slanking patroles; care must moreover be taken that no man smokes, or strikes a light.

As the only manner of being effectually on your guard during the night is by means of patroles, they must be sent out frequently, and be composed of sew men, and always in directions which cross each other; you must never delay sending out one patrole, because the last has not returned; and the second patrole must never be remiss, or depend upon that which precedes it, because it may have been

been carried off by the enemy, or may have lost its way; but, on the contrary, it must make use of the same precautions as were recommended to the first. They must listen very attentively, laying down on the ground with their ears close to the earth, so as to hear to a greater distance, than they could when standing, whatever is on the foot. If they hear the barking of a number of dogs, it is a fign that there are people in the neighbourhood. He, who commands the patrole, must steal towards that direction, or must send his most intelligent man; whoever it is must look to every thing going on, in the strictest filence, and with great precaution. If a noise is heard in a village, he must endeavor to draw near it: he will alight, that he may go every where with greater ease, and will endeavor, by all the means imaginable, to discover what may have caused it, but without in any manner committing himself. If the commander of the patrole sees a fire, he must approach it with the fame precautions; he must endeavor to discover whether those, who made it, are enemies; and if fo, he will observe, as far as he isable, able, what strength, and of what kind of troops they are; if they are peasants or shepherds, he must endeavor to draw from them facts the things, as he wants to learn. If he meets the enemy in the night time, without being seen by him, he will give immediate notice of it, but without firing or causing an alarm. If he is discovered, and pushed so hard, as to make him apprehend that the main body of the detachment, to which he belongs, may be cut off, he must make some of his men fire in skirmishing; and instead of retreating directly, and upon the main body, he must march in some other direction, so as to mislead the enemy.

If a ferjeant is sent upon a patrole, with a greater number of men than have been supposed to be under the orders of a corporal, he must take the same precautions as have been already prescribed: only he will keep a greater force with him, in order that, conformably to the general rule, he may always have a certain number of men collected together to support those, who are detached. The commander of the patrole must obey his orders scrupulously, and not expose himself to any unnecessary

cellary risks. If he is ordered to discover the position of the enemy, he must endeavor to glide between his polts; and retreat as foon as he has feen what it was his object to learn? without thinking of carrying off any of the enemy's posts, or waggons. But if he cannot any how, gain intelligence of the strengths of the enemy, he must, by attacking his vedets abruptly, moleft him, and oblige him to make fuch movements as may discover himself. The commander of the patrole must never lose time in these triffing attacks, lest he shouldslet the enemy close with him: but if he has a wood behind him, he may be certain that if he retreats into it, the enemy will not follow: him there. He must take care not to suffer his retreat to be cut off; as foon as he deems it expedient to make it, he will fend off before hand the tired horses; and he must not fail to retreat rather at a trot than a gallop, that he may not blow his horses. If he sees the enemy's horses are fatigued, and that only their best mounted men pursue him, he must make head against them from time to time, in order to check them, and to enable his worst mount-

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be must pass it as quick as possible, must rally his people when beyond it, and then make a sanden attack upon those who may attempt to pursue him. After having made head at the desile as long as possible, to give his horses wind, he must continue his retreat at a trota Lastly, if he is surrounded, he must collect all his men together, and break through the enemy sword in hand, wherever he thinks it must practicable to cut his way.

If the commander of the patrole does not know the roads, he will take guides, who must be carefully watched, especially during the night, lest they should make their escape. When he sends them back, he must never let them perceive which road he means to follow. If he is obliged to make enquiries respecting the roads, he must question the peafants as to those he does not mean to follow, as well as to that, which it is requisite for him to know, lest they should penetrate into his designs. When a patrole is to return by the same road, which it went, its commander must pay strict attention to the branchings off, lest

lest he should lose himself in returning; he must look back from time to time, so as to observe the most remarkable objects, and such as are sittest to make an impression on his memory.

CHAPTER VII.

Instructions for the Non-commissioned Officers who are upon the Grand Guard.

THE non-commissioned officers of the grand-guard must be told to place the vedets conformably to the orders of the officer, who commands it:—as far as it is feasible, they will post them in places from whence they will have an extensive view, without being seen by the enemy. When the enemy is very hear, the vedets must be doubled.—They should be arranged in such a manner, that nothing can pass through the spaces between them so as to reach their post, without coming into their sight; and that they may be also in view of the small post, from whence they are sent.

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If it is necessary to place some at such a distance, that they cannot be seen from the post, intermediary men must be stationed, to keep up the communication with them. The vedets must be relieved every two hours, and in hard frost oftener. Before they set out from the post, the corporal must shew them to the commanding officer. The vedets being inspected, the corporal will make them march by siles; and in going with the relief, will follow in every point what has been said on that head, in the Instructions for the Hussars, who are to be placed as vedets.

If there are woods or hedges, near the post, the non-commissioned officer must examine them thoroughly: he must also make a patrole as far as 4 or 500 paces beyond the vedets, to learn in person whether there are any ravines, or hollow roads, in which the enemy may hide himself. Should there be either the one, or the other, patroles must be made very frequently to those different spots.

In the same manner, he will make patroles to keep the communication open with the neighbouring posts, so that nothing can glide between them and his own. He will reconnoite

noitre by day light the roads; by which he must make his patroles at night. He will relieve his day vedets in the evening, as foon as he is ordered to to do by the commander of the post; and when he arrives at the night posts, he will always place the new vedets, according to the orders of the commanding officer of the guard. The vedets must always be doubled in the night time, and be placed fufficiently near one another, that no one can pass between them without being heard.--If. for want of an adequate number of men, the vedets are necessarily at a great distance from one another, they must be ordered to keep up a constant communication with one another, by patroling continually; that is, that one of the two must march towards the nearest vedet, whilft the other remains at his post. In fuch safes, the commanding officer must keep up constant patroles.—This must also be done in fogs. The non-commissioned officer, who leads a patrole, must receive the counterfign, from the commanding officer of the post, before he sets out; and he must conform to what has been above enjoined, under the article of Patroles. At his return, he must stop. when

when the vedet at the post cries, Stand Fast, to him, and when he shall have made himself known in the proper manner, he must give the commanding officer an account of whatever he has seen, or heard, and of what degree of vigilance he observed in the vedets. In posts, which are exposed, and where it might be apprehended that the cries of the wedets, and sentinels, might betray them, a mute signal, by which they may know each other, must be given to them, as well as to those who make the patroles.

The serjeants and corporals must reconnoitre at the dawn of day; they must visit carefully, with the number of hussar requisite, the ways leading to the day post, which the guard is to sesume: they must leave, from distance to distance, the hussars whom they take with them, lest the enemy, after having let shem pass, should steal behind them. The serjeant must reconnoitre in this manner to the right, and the corporal to the lest; when they have met, the latter must go with the report to the commanding officer. If the day is foggy, this reconnoitering must be performed with more than usual precautions. The corporal

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will then withdraw the vedets of the night post, as soon as he is ordered so to do; and when he comes to the day post, he must accompany the officer, who commands the guard, to the spot, where the serjeant was left. The commanding officer having given his orders, the corporal must withdraw the husiars, whom he left as vedets, whilst he was reconnoitering, and then place the vedets of the day post.

When a non-commissioned officer is ordered to withdraw all the vedets, he must do it regularly, by going for every man to his post; if time permits; but if he is in a hurry, he may call to him at the same time all those who are within hearing. At night he must positively relieve them one after another. during the day, the vedets give notice to the corporal to come and reconnoitre, he must advance brilkly towards them, having with him two huffars, pistol in hand; he must not go to fuch a distance from his post, as to be liable to be cut off. When he is near enough to be heard by the persons, whom he is come to reconnoitre, he must cry out, Who's there? and then, if it is a body of men, Of what Regiment ?

giment? and if they are general officers, Of what Rank? After the last answer he will cry, Stand Fast, to them; and then will send off a hustar, with his report to the commanding officer of the post, and to have orders from him, which orders he must execute minutely. If those, who were challenged, continue to advance after the word, Stand Fast, the corporal must repeat it a second time; and if they still move forwards, he must give orders to fire upon them.

Night reconnoiterings must be made by the corporal and two huffars, each of them piftol in hand; they must go to a short distance beyond the vedets. If after the challenge, What Rank? the answer is, General Officer of the Day, or, Field Officer of the Picket, the corporal must say, Advance and give the Parale, that he may receive the word from the field officer of the picket, or from the general officer: After it has been received and admitted, he, who gave it him, must send off a hussar to report this to the commanding officer of the post. If when reconnoitering at night, the answer is, Patrole, and it really is one belonging to his post, the corporal must let it return, after

after he has received the counterfigh from him, who commands it, and has known it to be the right one: If it is a party belonging to the army, and although the corporal is perfectly fure, that it is fuch, he must conduct the dommanding officer of it to the officer, who commands at his own post; the others must be stopped during the interim. If deserters come in, after they are known to be such, they must be disarmed, and must remain without the post, if they are at all numerous.

The non-commissioned officers must remain scrupulously at their post, and must take care, that the hussars do so likewise.

CHAPTER VIII.

Respecting the Order, the Police, and the Discipline of the Army.

THE faddle-bags must always be fastened on to the saddles. The bridle and arms of each huffar must be near him, so that he may readily lay his hand upon every thing. He must be apprized, that as often as the trumpets sound, Boots and Saddles, by day or night, he must

must rife, dress, arm himself, and bridle his horse quickly, and go on foot to the spot on which his troop is paraded. If the trumpet sounds to Horse, he must mount immediately with the greatest celerity.

If, when on a march, a halt is made, and the hussars alight, should calls be sounded at the head of the party, they must mount briskly, and the instant the trumpet sounds to march, they must all move on at the same time. At night the deepest silence must be kept during the march, nor must even the words of command, such as balt, march, or any other, be allowed to be used.

On days of action, no hussar, on pain of death, must quit his ranks during the engagement, to strip, or pillage the dead. They must be forbid to lead, or carry off the wounded, during the battle. Every non-commissioned officer who takes a colour, standard, or piece of cannon, shall receive a gratification,* to be settled by the commander in chief; if he brings off the piece of cannon

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^{*} Though the original mentions specific gratifications in all the instances but the last, it was thought expedient to omit them.

with the horses, he shall moreover receive an additional one for each horse. If he takes one of the enemy's general officers, he shall receive a gratification, also to be fixed by the commander in chief, and proportionate to the rank of the prisoner, and to the circumstances under which he was taken. If these non commissioned officers or hussars are, either by their former conduct, or by having shewn themselves sufficiently intelligent, capable of being promoted to the rank of officer, and are adequate to the duties incumbent on it, the colonel of their regiment should appoint them to the first commissions, that fall vacant.

If several non-commissioned officers, or husfars, lay claim to the fame prize, the dispute must be determined by their colonel. When there are not fufficient proofs to justify the affigning it to any one man, the gratification must be shared amongst those, whose claims feem to be the best founded.

Hunting, shooting, and sporting in general, must be forbid without exception to all perfons in the army, both in camp, and when it is in cantonments. All hustars, convicted of this

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this offence, must be punished with the greatest rigour.

In the like manner, there must be a prohibition against fishing, cutting down fruit trees, or such as serve as ornaments, against tearing up the marks placed to direct the march of the columns, the rooting up or carrying off hedges, palings, or stakes, or seizing any wood, either new or old, which is already shaped.

No table, for games of chance, may be let up in the camp, or its environs, under whatever names such games may go;—if set up, the punishment is to be a year's imprisonment for those who hold them.

All horses sound without their masters, or persons to lead them, either in the camp or its environs, must be brought to the prevot of the army, who must restore them to their owners.

No one may enrol, or engage in the fervice, any officer's fervant, without his mafter's permission, nor any driver, either of the baggage, of the artillery, or of the commissary's department, unless he has about him his discharge in due form; otherwise his enrolment will be null.

null, and the enroller will have to refund his reward.

Every one, who loever, must be forbid going out, to meet those, who bring provisions to the camp, to do them any injury, to use any violence towards them, or to exact any thing from them; any non-commissioned officers, or hustars, who disregard these prohibitions, must be sent to the prevot, and there to be punished by his corporal, or assistants: under the same penalty, they must be forbid to cause any hindrance to the mills, or to injure any dams, or suices in the neighbourhood of the camp.

Whoever shall be found leaded with cloaths, or utensils, taken in marauding, shall be sent to the prevot, and tried as a thief, conformably to the sull rigour of the articles of war.

Every husiar who does not conform to the discipline of the army, or commits any discreter, must be punished at the head of his regiment, by the prevôt's corporals, or assistants.

When vegetables are ferved out, the huffars, when they have had time to collect and cleanse the garden stuff, must be brought back to camp in order, and none of them must be suffered

fuffered to remain behind, or to return to the ground. Great attention must be had, that the vegetables may be served out in proportion to the wants of the hussars, and that they only gather such garden-stuff, as is ripe and whole-some.

No party must go to any distance from the army without a passport, signed by the commander in chief, and sealed with his arms.

All prizes must be shared in the following manner, between the officers and hussars, who make them. The partizan, who commands the party, of whatever rank he is, must first take six shares, as having been at the head of it. If he is a captain, he must have six shares more; if a lieutenant, four; if a serjeant, two; and if a common hussar, but one. If there are any wounded hussars, who have not been able to join by the time, at which the sale takes place, their shares must be lodged in the hands of the major of the regiment, to be delivered to them on their return.

If a hussar on his return from having been out on a party, is discovered to have lost any of his arms, cloaths, or accourrements, his captain must deduct the value of what is lost from

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from his share of the prizes made by the party. Except in this case, each hussar shall have his share delivered to him on the spot, and without any stoppage. The plunder on a prisoner, and his money, belong to him who takes him; if several lay a claim to it, the dispute must be decided by the commanding officer of the detachment, or party; and should the case not prove a clear one, the plunder and money must be shared amongst those, whose pretensions appear the best founded.

All foldiers, troopers, or husiars, whom the generals of the army have placed as safeguards, must be respected as sentinels. All non commissioned officers and husiars must be forbid, on pain of death, to offer any injury whatever to those, to whom safe-guards have been granted.

The bread, meat, and pay of the huffars, fent as fafe-guards, will belong to their meffes during their absence. The huffars, sent as safe-guards, will, during the first fortnight, receive the whole of what is to be paid for them in the places where they are posted; but, after that fortnight, they will only receive half of that emolument; the other half will

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be shared between them and the other husiars of the troop.

When in cantonments, bounds will be preferibed, which the huffars will be forbid to go
beyond, without becoming subject to the punishments, denounced by the articles of war
against deserters; they must also be forbid
going out of their quarters with their horses,
or arms; nor must they be suffered to oblige
their landlords to furnish them with a meal
on their arrival, or departure, or any thing but
the common utensils for cooking, &c.

No one, without subjecting himself to the punishment decreed against those who are guilty of rapine, and extortion, shall presume to levy any contributions, in his quarters, or the country, unless he is expressly authorised so to do by the commander in chief.

PART

PART II.

INSTRUCTIONS

FOR

OFFICERS OF HUSSARS

IN

TIME OF WAR.

H

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OFFICERS.

Preliminary Observations.

WHEN the officer has made himself familiar with the principles, laid down in the Instructions to the Private Hussars, and Noncommissioned Officers, it will be necessary to instruct him on a larger scale, in what manner he may discharge successfully the different commissions, which may be entrusted to him. It must be often repeated to him, that in war, one must not only seize opportunities such as offer themselves, but one must endeavour to make them arise; that he must use all imaginable means to discover the defigns of the enemy, in order to be before hand with them; and that he must study the character of those, who are under his command, that he may employ every one in the service for which he is best calculated.

During peace, the officer should have recourse to every method of forming his sight.

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For instance, in going through a country, he may suppose that the enemy occupies a certain position, and then consider: what position should be taken, either for the attack of, or for defence against, an enemy so posted. He must judge the distance from one point to another, and then step it, to know whether he guessed right or not, and that he may render his sight correct.

Although it would be difficult to lay down fixed principles, for all the different cases, which may arise in war, there are however general rules, which must be applied according to existing circumstances.

As the conduct of the officer must vary according to the object, which he is ordered to fulfil, he must first of all have the instructions, which will be given to him before he sets out, explained to him fully, and clearly.

If he is placed at the advanced guard of an army, or of a firong detachment, and his aim is to occupy an advantageous and important post, he must attack and push bridly every thing, which comes before him, until he has reached the point, of which he is to possess himself; and after he has arrived there, if he is attacked,

tacked, he must defend himself with the greatest obstinacy, since he is backed by the army, or detachment, to whom he must give time to come up.

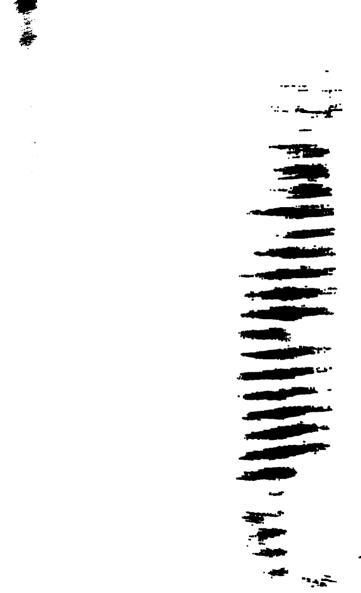
On the contrary, when on the rear guard, he must avoid fighting, or being drawn into action, as much as possible; and if he is forced to it, he must take great care not to pursue the enemy, after he has repulsed him.

When ordered to purfue a beaten enemy, he cannot do it too briskly, but he must not disperse his people too much. He must, on the contrary, always keep the greater part of them together, that he may be in a condition to resist fresh troops, if any are sent up.

If he is ordered to drive off a body of men, which the enemy may have thrown before him, to conceal their movements, he must attack it sharply with the whole of his detachment, his object being to break through the screen, in order to see what the enemy is about behind it.

The commander of a detachment must combine prudence with courage, so as not to get, into action unnecessarily, or to avoid fighting, when the end he has to attain requires it.—

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CHAPTER I.

On Grand, or Advanced Guards.

EVERY grand guard, or detachment deftined to march towards the enemy, must be divided into two or four divisions, according to its strength. As soon as a guard is detached from the main body of the troops, of which it makes a part, the officer who commands it. must form an advanced guard for it, composed of the first division, and commanded by an officer, or non-commissioned officer, according to its numbers. If the guard is only told off into two divisions, the rear guard, which it must have, as well as the patroles upon its flanks, should be drawn from the first division, which is intended to form the advanced guard. If, on the contrary, the guard is numerous enough to be capable of being formed into four divisions, the first of them will furnish the advanced guard, and the fourth the patroles on the flanks, and the rear guard. In all cases, the advanced guard must be preceded, and the rear guard must be followed, by a corporal and four, or even fix men, arranged in the manner

manner already enjoined in the instructions to non-commissioned officers. In general, the advanced and rear guards should be at 160. or 200 paces distance from the body they belong to; at night time, and in fogs, thole distances must be considerably shortened. When the grand guard comes to its fration, its commanding officer must go himself to place the small guard, which is composed of his first division. He will then have the vedets placed; they should surround the whole detachment, at a distance of about 400 paces from it. If it be possible, they must be set in fuch manner, that they may fee every thing without being themselves seen by the enemy. and that all of them may be within fight either of the grand, or of the small guard.

At night, and when very near the enemy, the vedets must be doubled. If, during the day time, they are near enough to be fired at with musquetry, they are to keep constantly in motion, to render it more difficult to take aim at them. The officer should endeavor to put his force under cover of some knoll, or rising ground, lest the enemy should discover its strength; but he must do this in such manner, that,

that, in case of need, it may be able either to advance, or to retreat with case.

He must be attentive not to have ravines, or defiles close in his rear, and not let his force be masked by being too near a wood, or any other obstacle, which may hinder him from perceiving the approach of the enemy.

When obliged to fall back, he must call in his small guard, after it has withdrawn its vedete, and must retreat by divisions; the first of these must advance a sew yards, whilst the second marches about a hundred paces to the rear at a trot, and then faces about; as soon as it is formed, the first division must fall back in its turn, and so on.

The vedets must be cautioned, that if the attack is so brisk, as not to allow of their being withdrawn regularly, they must follow the motions of their main body.

After placing the vedets, the officer, who commands the guard, should send out patroles quite around it, to the distance of sour or five hundred pages, that he may have a thorough knowledge of the country about him. He should know whether there are defiles, morasses, ponds, or thickets, upon his stanks;

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he should reconnoitre all the roads, and causeways in the neighbourhood of his post, and should learn where they lead to, and whether cannon can be drawn along them. The reports made by his patroles, combined with the information afforded by the people of the country, should bring him to fixed and conclusive ideas on that head, on which also a good map of the country would be of great use to him. All the ways leading to the post being well reconnoitred, the officer must himfelf go to the vedets, to fee that the counterfign has been properly given to them, and to point out to them what extent of ground should come under the range of their eyes. If he is near any very lofty house, a steeple, or high tree, from the top of which the view is extensive, he may send a man up, with orders to give notice, should the enemy draw near, by firing his carbine, or piftol.

If there are woods, hedges, or ravines near his post, he must have them explored very frequently during the day time by patroles in cross directions. He must keep up a free communication with the neighbouring guards by the same means.

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The commanding officer of the guard having taken all the precautions thus laid down, he may order half his men to alight to feed their horses.

The small guard must be relieved every two hours: the division composing the relief will advance into line with it. The corporal will take with him the number of men necessary as vedets, and will go with the corporal of the old small guard to relieve those belonging to it. The old small guard, its videts having come in, will fall back; and when it has returned to the main guard, it will alight in its turn to feed the horses.

In great heats the horses should be watered about the middle of the day. The commanding officer must send only one fourth to water at a time;—in the mean time the rest of his men should be mounted. The watering party must be headed by an officer, or non-commissioned officer, and the horses are to be led in snaffles.

When the nearness of the enemy necessitates greater precautions, the horses should not be led to water during the day.

The reconnoiterings by day must be made

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as is enjoined in the infirmations to non-commissioned officers.

Whenever a corporal fent to reconnoitre gives notice, that he fees a body of armed men, the commanding officer must make all his people mount, and must advance himself, that he may be enabled to judge what it may be.

When the General Officers of the Day, or the Field Officers of the Picket wift his post, he must order them to be reconnoisered, and then receive them with his sword drawn.

He should often visit the vedets, to ascertain their vigilance, and to judge whether all the ways leading to his post are well guarded.

In the day time, he must have the roads reconnoitered, which the patroles must take by night; and this is to be done by those, whom he destines for those patroles. Towards evening, he should explain to the officers and non-commissioned officers, who are with him, the manner in which they are to make their night patroles. These must never be made at fixed times; but he must dispatch them when he thinks sit.

At fun-fet he will make the whole guard mount,

mount, will withdraw the vedets, and then retreat to his night post, his small guard forming the rear guard; he will halt twice in his retreat, which he will take care to make at the same time with the guards, which are to his right and lest, if such there are. When the guard is arrived at its night post, he must surround it with vedets, to prevent a surprize; and then will send the stories to water in the order above prescribed, beginning by that portion of his force, which is to relieve the small guard.

When all the horses are watered, and have eat their corn, in succession, the small guard must be relieved, and the night vedets and sentinels placed, according to the instructions already given to non-commissioned officers.

If his position allows of it, the commanding officer of the guard will order half his men to alight, and the roll to be called. Those, who have dismounted, must always hold their horses bridles. He will then give to his officers and non-commissioned officers the Parole and Countersign, which will have been sent to him sealed up by the major of his regiment.

If

If any one of the non-commissioned officers, to whom he has given the countersign, should desert, or be made prisoner, he must instantly change it, and apprize the neighbouring posts of the circumstance, lest the enemy should avail themselves of the former countersign to surprize them.

If the inclemency of the weather obliges him to have a fire, he must direct it to be made in a hole, or in some place so concealed that the enemy cannot discover it. At the first alarm he must have it extinguished, or covered over quickly.

He must observe, that the hussars keep, during the whole night, round the fire, opposite their posts, and without sleeping. Every time the vedets apprize him, that they perceive any thing, he must order his guard to mount with the greatest briskness.

When the general officers of the day, or the field officers of the picket visit his guard during the night, as soon as the corporal shall have apprized him of it, he must advance six paces beyond the vedet, and cry out, Advance for the parole. The general, or field officer will advance, and receive the parole from the commanding

commanding officer of the guard, who will after that shew it him in writing. Doeing the night time, he must very frequently fend out patroles beyond his post, with the precautions indicated in the instructions to the non-commissioned officers.

- Before the dawn of day, the whole guard must mount; and when the day is broke; the commanding officer of the post must fend that part of his force, which is to be placed at the day post, or the small guard, to water ; when it has returned, and the horses have cat their corn, he will detach a serjeant with four, or fix men by the right, and a corporal with as many more by the left, to examine all the fpots, which he shall have pointed out to them. They must visit all those places around the post, which the guard is about to resume, wherein the enemy may have formed an ambuscade. They will place hussars, from distance to distance, as vedets, on the ground, which they pass over. When these two noncommissioned officers shall have met, the ferjeant must remain with the vedet, who is most advanced in the front; and the corporal must

go with the report to the commanding officer of the guard.

When the day is foggy, the reconnoitering requires greater attention, and precautions, on the part of the non-commissioned officers.

The reconnoitering being over, the commanding officer of the guard must order the rest of his men to water their horses, and give them their corn, in succession, ending with those, who formed the small guard at the night post, and whom, as well as his vedets, he must call in for this purpose.

He will then march to resume his day post; and if there happens to be a guard of Infantry, which is to post itself near his, they should take care to march together, that they may protect one another.

When the guard is arrived at its day post, its commanding officer must go with the corporal, who reconnoitered, and place himself by the most advanced vedet, where the serjeant remained; he will then see with his own eyes, how far the report made to him was true; he will after that send the serjeant, and corporal to withdraw the vedets, whom they had placed; and of them he will form the small guard.

guard. He will then have the day vedets set, and give the serjeant the particular charges, he deems necessary. This being done, he will retire to his post.

The commanding officer of the post must let no detachment of the army come in during the night* without an order signed by the commander in chief, or by the general officers of the day: he will only permit the officer, who commands it, to go to the commander in chief, or to send to him.

Such strangers as arrive, and as deserve attention, must be conducted to the Quarter-Master General of the cavalry, or to the person, who discharges the duties of that station.

When the commanding officer of the guard is informed of the arrival of drums, or trumpets from the enemy, he will order his subaltern, or serjeant to go, and receive the packets, which have been intrusted to them, and for which he will give them a receipt, and must send them back to their own army that instant, without suffering them to stop near the

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post.

[•] Even though they should give a wrong countersign, they should not be fired on, unless they disobey the order to fland fast.

post. He will then send off the packets to the general.

With respect to deserters, in the first place they must be disarmed on the spot; they must not be allowed to sell any of their effects; and they must be kept within sight as prisoners, till they can be lasely conducted to the quarter-master general of the cavalry.

The grand guards placed in front of the army must allow no foot soldier, trooper, husfar, or dragoon, to pass beyond their post. Those placed in the rear of the army will only permit such men to pass, as are provided with discharges, drawn up in the form required by the rules of the service.

Such guards must offer no hindrance to the country people, who bring provisions. They must not quit their post until regularly relieved either by a general officer of the day, or by another guard announced in orders, or when they are attacked by a superior force. All new instructions must be given in writing, and signed either by the general officers of the day, or the field officers of the picket.

Commanders of polls must take care to have the country in their front well explored; and

and must inform quickly, and if time permits it, in writing, the general, or him unto whom they are ordered to transmit their reports, of whatfoever is worth imparting to them. This must be done in the following form. First of all, the date of the day, the hour, and the place must be written, and then the word "REPORT" in large letters; after this will follow the detail of all, of which the general is to be informed, and then the fignature. If these reports are relative to news of the enemy, he, who makes them, must always be attentive to explain precisely on what spot he was, when he saw that, which is the subject matter of his report, and of the spots which were to his right, and to his left.

The commanding officer of the post must examine closely such persons, as come from without the army, whether peasants, or travellers. He must interrogate them as to the different roads in his neighbourhood; he must learn, whence they come, and whither they are going; what business they have at the camp, or essewhere; where the enemy is, and what they know respecting him.

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When one of the advanced posts is near an enemy's camp, its commanding officer must watch the troops which enter, or quit that camp; he must observe their strength, and where they go: for the enemy often leaves tents standing, in order to conceal his march. It is at the break of day, that he should examine every thing with the greatest attention, to ascertain what has been done during the night: to make these observations, he ought to be provided with a good telescope.

It may be known by a kind of confused noise whether troops enter, or leave a camp. If they enter one, it may be discovered by the noise of the carriages and waggons, by the cries of their drivers, and of those of the artillery, by the neighing of the horses, and by the increased number of fires. If on the contrary, a part of the army moves in the night time, in order to retreat, this becomes pereeptible from the increasing distance, at which the noise is heard, and by the fires going out But reliance must not however by degrees. be placed in this last fymptom, as the enemy fometimes, without moving at all, has his fires put out, in order to deceive you; he, **fometimes**

fometimes has them lighted in places, where he has no troops; and, at others, has them kept up after he has decamped. In these different circumstances, it is necessary to advance as far as possible, to make the least noise that can be, and to observe every thing as nearly as can be effected.

If your army decamps by day-time, the guards must mount their horses, as soon as The Troop beats, and examine the enemy most attentively, without however making any great movements, or withdrawing the vedets: these must be withdrawn all together by an officer, or non-commissioned officer, when you are about to march to follow the army.

Sometimes the enemy's generals advance, under a strong escort, as far as your guards, with a view to make your vedets quit heights, that they may themselves be able to ascend them, and reconnoitre your camp. If the commanding officer of the guard thinks, that he discovers this to be their design, he must instantly let the body of troops, from which he is detached, be apprized of it.

If the advanced guards are so placed, as to have a very broad ditch, a rivulet, or a river,

in front of them, the officer should himself. inspect this obstacle in the whole of the length, in which it extends before his post; and if there are places, at which it may be croffed, or bridges, he must place vedets there. At night, the planks that form the upper part of the bridge, and lay upon it, must be taken away; and he must have them brought to his fide of it, in order to prevent its being passed. Frequent patroles must also be made in that direction; and he must enjoin to those, who command them, the greatest precautions, particularly if the opposite banks are lined withhedges, which might conceal the enemy's marksmen, lest the men thus patroling should be needlessly exposed to be killed.

If the advanced guards are obliged to remain at their posts, whilst their army decamps, the officers, who command them, must then redouble their precautions, lest they should be carried off; and when they have permission to follow it, they must withdraw their vedets imperceptibly, and fall back so as to join the army, whose rear guard, in such cases, they generally form. In circumstances of this nature, they must watch most closely the motions

motions of the enemy, and must frequently send off accounts of them.

If the commanding officer of the guard receives in the night time an order to change his position, he must try to get a light, that he may examine upon his map the environs of the new post, which he is to occupy, and make the arrangement of his vedets, and patroles, in consequence. At dawn of day, he will rectify the errors, which the night may have caused him to commit.

When the guards relieve each other, the new one must place itself to the lest of the old one; the officers will communicate to each other the instructions; will together visit the ways leading to the post; and will have the vedets, and the small guard relieved; after which, when the old guard is affembled, it will return to its regiment in the same order, and with the same precautions it had observed in going to its post.

As the new vedets should always be brought to the officer, before they are placed, he should take care to inspect them, to see that their fire arms are loaded, and to point out the spot where each should be posted, taking the oldest soldiers for the most advanced sta-

If the officer, who commands the grand guard, has under his orders another, which is detached from him, he must take care to enjoin to it every thing which it will have to do. In other respects, the officer, who commands this detached post, will conform to every thing, which has been above laid down. When relieved, he will join the commanding officer of the guard, who is to delay his return, till he is come in.

If, during the time it is upon duty, the guard is attacked by a superior force, the officer, commanding it, will have his vedets, and his small guard withdrawn, and will retreat in the manner above prescribed, so as not to let himself be carried off. But if unfortunately he is surrounded, there is nothing else to be done, but to break through sword in hand.

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CHAPTER II.

On detached Pofts.

EVERY officer, who is detached towards the wing of an army, or any other other post of the enemy, to watch it, must gain a thotough knowledge of the country from his map, and from those, who are well acquainted wish it. His first care must be to choose a position upon a height, which should be, if possible, surrounded with woods, and from whence he can descry the enemy, without being feen by him. He must endeavor to go to it during the night, and without noise; he must avoid villages, suffer no fire to be made, and contrive to be feen by no one. At dawn of day, he must place sentinels, on foot, on the slope of the hill, and vedeta behind trees and bushes, that they may examine, and discover, at a great distance, every thing that passes on the fide of the enemy. He must make some of his people climb the highest trees, and give him a minute account of all they perceive. If he observes any thing of impostance, he will

will take a note of it, that he may make an exact report to the general in the evening.

As this detachment should always keep itfelf concealed, it should be furnished with provisions, and forage, for at least three days. At night, it must fall back to the spot, which the officer shall have deemed most suitable, and least exposed to be found out. communicate to no one his intentions on that head. When arrived at his night post, he must secure himself by continual patroles. He should never pals two nights on the same spot; and, upon the least apprehension of a discovery, he should change his post in the day time. this manner, it will be difficult for the enemy to make any enterprize against him. In case his detachment is driven off, and dispersed by the enemy, he must himself go to the rallying point, which must be in the direction in which his camp lays, and which he must have indicated before-hand to his people, each of whom must repair to it as quickly as possible, and as fafely as he can.

The principal object of an officer, thus detached, being only to watch the enemy, and to cover the country, he must not lose time in making making booty, or taking prisoners; and he must confine himself to the execution of the orders, which he has received; he must endeavor, as far as he can, to hide himself from the inhabitants, and especially not to become a burthen to them.

At the period, at which this party is to be relieved, he must send a safe man, who is well acquainted with the road, to the corps, from which he is detached, to act as a guide to the new party: and, to avoid all possibility of an accident, he should not remain with his party on the spot, which he has pointed out, but should keep an intelligent non commissioned officer and two men on it, with orders to conduct the new detachment to him, as soon as it shall have joined them, and, if by chance the enemy came there, to apprize him of it by repairing to him, or by siring upon them.

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CHAPTER III.

On the Conduct to be beld by an Officer, placed in the Chain of Posts, whilst the Army is in Cantonments, or posted in a Village, situated either in Front, or on the Flank of the Army.

THE officer, when ordered to repair to the fpot indicated to him, will receive instructions from his general with respect to his destination, to the country which he is to cover, to the enemy's posts which he is to watch, and to the point upon which he is to retreat, should he be attacked by a superior force.

Suppose him to be detached with a party of 30 or 40 horse: when arrived at the village, which he is to guard, he will conceal about three fourths of his men behind the houses; and with the remaining fourth he will patrole all the environs, as far as he can, and even up to the enemy's posts. He will reconnoitre

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[•] Before his people enter the village, he is to post a small party on the opposite side, to prevent the inhabitants carrying intelligence to the enemy.

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the villages, the vallies, and fuch spots as are covered with wood, or underwood. If he is apprehensive of being attacked, he should take with him the whole of his detachment. this patrole, he should also take with him some man from the village, on horseback, who is qualified to shew him the whole country, and to point out the roads, by which an enemy might come upon him. This being done, he will post his vedets in the manner laid down in the article " of Advanced Guards," and will place a fentinel, either upon the steeple, or on the top of the highest house. He will examine the position, in which he means to place his guard, and will choose his parade according to the polition, which he intends to occupy during the night, and according to the principles which will be laid down in the next chapter: in the choice of it, he will give the preference to that fide of the village, on which he has the least to fear. After having made all the necessary arrangements, he will fend half his men into such of the peasants houses, as are nearest his parade, and from the backs of which they can come out on that fide of the village, in which it is chosen. He will order, that

that half the horses shall have their bridles and saddles taken off, be rubbed down, and sed; when this is done, they must be saddled again, and the other half of the detachment will then be proceeded with in the same manner.

When the men have unfaddled their horfes, they must take care, that the saddle should be always placed behind each horse, the pistols in the holsters, the stirrups and housings, or chabraque (if any) folded up on the top of the saddle, and the bridle at hand, so that they may easily saddle their horses with the greatest expedition.

The hussar should always carry his carbine with him, and never take off his cloaths either by night or day, except to change his linen.

If the enemy is in the neighbourhood, and any thing is apprehended from him, half the horses should be unbribled at a time, to feed, but they should not be unsaddled. In such cases it is necessary to have a guard one foot, which should constantly have an eye to the vedets, in order to give notice of the least motion, which it shall see them make. The officer should also post a guard at the entrance, and the outlet in the rear of the village, and chiefly

chiefly amongst bushes, or on the slope of a hill, to cover his flanks, lest he should be attacked and cut off.

It is of the extremest necessity, that the officer should secure himself, not only as to what is in front, but as to what is in the rear of his post, even though there should be others in the neighbourhood. He must often send patroles, of two or three men, beyond the vodets, to observe attentively what is going on; and he will principally enjoin them to ascend such heights, as could not be occupied on account of their distance.

He will fometimes make fuch patroles as these, with 20, or 25 men, to induce the enemy to believe, that his detachment is more considerable, than it really is.

He will regularly make half his men fleep during the day time, and have their horses unsaddled; but the other half must always be awake, and have their horses saddled and bridled.

At the approach of night, he must increase the number of his patroles, and go in person, to judge by his own eyes of the changes, which may have happened in the enemy's position, fition, that he may make his report of them, in writing, to the general.

As foon as the night is fet in, the officer will make his vedets and posts fall back a little; and if they were on heights, he will place them behind, or at the bottom of them; because in the night time it is easier to see any thing coming towards one, by looking upwards from a low fituation, than downwards from a high one. He must, as far as it is in his power, block up all the ways* leading to the village with waggons, large branches of trees, and poles. He will place a guard of peasants there, commanded by one of his own people. He must make his detached posts remark carefully two or three ways, by which they may enter the village, which he must have reconncitted, and of which the enemy cannot be apprized; so that, if obliged to fall back, they may find

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[•] Cross-ditches may be made across the entrance of the village; but the road, by which he intends to fally, must be secured by waggons, loaded with dung, which may easily be removed, or, in case of necessity, will serve as a parapet.

them again in the night.* It is by these outlets, that he must send out frequent patroles during the night, to obtain a certain knowledge of the motions of the enemy, and of the vigilance of his own posts. Towards midnight. the officer and all of his men must be awake. Before the day dawns, they must saddle, bridle. and mount their horses. If the officer has judged it expedient to change his position, during the night, he must act in the method preferibed in the preceding chapter, and fend an account to his general of every thing new. which may have happened. As the day breaks. the vedets must again ascend the height, but with great stillness, and observe attentively whatever is going on. The officer will at the fame time fend patroles forwards, upon discovery, in the manner laid down above. will continue out, till it is broad day light; and if there is a fog, those who compose them,

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[•] Count Turpin observes, that should the out-posts be driven in, and closely pursued, and enter the village by the high roads passing through it, the enemy might break into it, pell-mell, with them; but by retreating in the manner recommended, they missed him, and give their own troops within, more time to prepare for desence.

may scatter themselves, one by one, in order to cover the whole front. If every thing appears quiet, the officer will then mount his horse, to go out himself to make observations, and to push his patroles as far as possible. During this time, the whole detachment must be on horseback, and ready to march.

On his return, the officer will make his report to the general, will again place fome men on the steeple, and will order his people to take off their bridles and faddles, half at a time, in succession, as enjoined above.

He must use his utmost endeavours, especially in an enemy's country, to hinder the people of the village from going beyond his advanced posts; he may threaten, that he will order all such peasants, as dare attempt it, to be put to death.

If he can procure any man, of whom he is fure, as a fpy, he must fend him to the enemy,

In an enemy's country, he may give out, that he shall take a different road from that he really means to follow; in this case, he must either know perfectly, or have a trusty guide for, the latter. The inhabitants will not fail to communicate this salse intelligence to the foe, if possible.

Lindenau.

without

without delay, and without hesitating about the expence. If he can procure two, he should send one in the morning, and the other in the evening, and should take his measures according to their report, and apprize his general.*

In the winter, the officer should inform himself particularly of the places, in which the ice would render his post more accessible to the enemy. As in that season the men and horses cannot remain all night at picket, he must take care to place them (as has been prescribed) in such houses, as are as near as possible to each other. He must station a non-commissioned officer in each of the quarters, who will receive orders to keep his men awake; and to be still more sure, that nobody sleeps, he may collect all his people in his own quarters.

He must fix himself in the place nearest to his people, and the parade, and must post a

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fentinel .

[.] It might be dangerous, or impossible, for these spies to return to him by the direct road, should they have to inform him of any movements made, or ambuscades formed, by the enemy; some place therefore in a different direction should be fixed on, to which they are to repair with their intelligence, and communicate it by word of mouth, or by signals previously agreed upon.

Lindenau.

fentinel at his door, who will make a noise to apprize him of the first pistol he shall hear fired. He should not suffer to remain in the streets of the village, or in the roads through it, any waggons, wood, or other obstacles, which might hinder his men from issuing from it briskly. He must never trust either to the distance, or the unskilfulness of the enemy, and must keep himself, as well as his whole detachment, constantly upon his guard.

As his most important object is to avoid being surprized, the officer must with great care instruct his patroles, in what they have to do, and must always observe, to send them out at different hours, lest the enemy should be enabled to watch them, or carry them off. If the enemy makes his appearance by day, the officer must march to the assistance of his advanced posts; and if by night, he must place some men towards the outlets, by which they are to retreat.

If he has infantry at his post, he should station it in the houses nearest the enemy, and should make it occupy all the hedges, and the outlets outlets of the village, as well as such places, as he shall have caused to be barricaded.*

By day, the fentinels must occupy heights, from whence they can descry the vedets: but at night, they must be withdrawn behind the barriers. Infantry should also be placed at the outlets appointed for the retreat of the horse, which it should barricade as foon as they have fallen back, to prevent the enemy from following them into the village. If this infantry is obliged to abandon its posts, it should retreat through the gardens, and yards of the peafants, in order to repair tó the parade, where it is again to join the cavalry. It is necessary in such circumstances, that the officer should keep up the greatest harmony between the foot, and the horse; and especially, he should furnish the former with every thing in abundance.

In such a position, the rules laid down for

* If the enemy frequents the ground, which his patroles should go over, and if he has light infantry at his post, he must send some of it with them; it should be left at ravines, or defiles; and on the return of the patroles to such spots, it should march back to its post with them.—Lindenau.

advanced

advanced guards, and patroles, must be carefully adhered to.*

If a field officer is ordered to occupy a post of this nature with a more considerable detachment, he must take the precautions, enjoined above, before he occupies it.

If upon his first reconnoitering he finds his position dangerous, he will merely place his advanced posts behind the village, and will himself remain on the hither side of it, so as to have it in his front. He will then take all the necessary means to avoid being surprized, and will transmit information to his general of the danger, which attends occupying the village in question. Whatever orders he may have received, he must never risk the establishing himself in it, unless he is positively sure, that he can have a quarter of an hour's notice, before the arrival of the enemy. He can scarcely

Patroles fent out before break of day, or in the evening, from a quarter in which part of the army is cantoned, when they are two or three miles beyond the advanced pofts, must fend off a report, if they have seen nothing of the enemy. If no report arrives, the advanced post will conclude, that the patrole has been cut off, will send out a few men to reconnoitre, and give notice to the quarter of their suspicions.

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have such a certainty, unless all the ways leading to his post are defiles capable of being guarded by a few men:—He must then have all those avenues occupied by small detachments, supported by a picket of greater strength, which may be able to assist them in case of need. Supposing the horses to be then placed in the village, they must be stationed in barns, that they may be brought out of them with greater ease.

The guards must be stronger during the night; and half the detachment must be out on the side, on which the enemy is, to prevent his approach.*

The posts must not be multiplied needlessly during the day; all precautions however necessary for security must be observed. When you have no infantry, parties on foot must be posted in such places, as it would have occupied; but they should be small ones, and should have their horses fastened at hand

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During the night, an orderly man of each squadron must remain in, or near his captain's quarters, to give him notice, if he hears any firing at a distance.

to them, that they may be able to join the main body, when forced to abandon the points they were ordered to defend.*

The advanced guards should make their retreat as flowly as possible, to give the main body time to mount; this body should proceed rapidly, but with order, to some spot assigned to it, and on which it can manæuvre. It is the business of each officer, commanding a squadron, to lead it to that spot, after having formed it on its parade, which he shall have previously pointed out to it. The small parties, which were ordered to hold out for a long time in different points, then rally at the advanced posts, and form the rear guard. It is when the enemy, after having gone through the village, begins to issue from it, that you must fall upon him; this however is in the supposition, that you run no risk of being turned, as then, a retreat is all that remains

K. of P's. Instructions.

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^{*} In the night, on hearing a musket fired, the picket must march out of the village, and the trumpet sound to Horse, upon which the whole must assemble upon the parade: one orderly trumpet must attend the commander in chief, and the rest remain with their respective captains.

for you to refort to. In villages capable of being turned on all fides, nothing can be done but to fall back at night into the open country, leaving them in your front, and to be on horseback at the dawn of day.

If you have infantry at your post, and are careful to place it in those points, in which it will be easiest for it to stop the enemy, a part of your hussars may be allowed to unsaddle their horses, and rest themselves during the day time. But in this case, should you be attacked, you must form expeditiously in some point, from whence you may have it in your power to support that infantry.

If a superior force compels you to a retreat, you must make it with slowness sufficient to give the troops, which support you, the time to form.

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in winter, should there be morasses not sufficiently fresen over to bear the husiars, but which are passable for the enemy's foot, frequent patroles of infantry must be sent out in the night, as long as the frost continues.

CHAPTER IV.

On Alarm Posts.

IT is indispensably necessary, that the officer should go attentively through, and round the whole village, and observe, whether it is intersected, or not, and whether the ground, on which it stands, is flat, or hilly, that he may be enabled to make a proper choice of an alarm post; in selecting it, he must consider whether his party is to affemble upon it by night, or by day, and what fort of troops, and what numbers, are to form upon it. Those destined for the horse should always be behind the village, or on that fide of it, on which he is polted, and from which affiltance is to come; for the enemy, in advancing brifkly, would infallibly disperse them, if they came out of the village one by one. Those for the foot, should be chosen, during the day time, in front of the village, on the side on which the advanced guards are posted.

If the country is flat, so that the enemy can enter the village on every side, it is equally necessary to choose an alarm post behind it;

and the men must be kept awake the whole of the night. From this post the officer must send out frequent patroles to ensure his safety.

The officer, or non commissioned officer, at the advanced guard, must know where this post is, that he may find it, when he has any report to make in the night time, and that he may join the main body, if he happens to be attacked, or driven back.

If the country is intersected, the alarm post for both night and day must be chosen behind some defile so situated, that the enemy must necessarily pass through it, as it is easy to defend such a post with a sew men against a great number. It is always a grievous sault to place yourself in front of a defile.

If there is an alert in the night, the detachment will affemble expeditiously behind the village, on the spot assigned for the parade, the situation of which must be clearly explained to the soldiers, and to the officers; the latter must be the first to repair thither, to get their men into order.

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CHAPTER V.

On Patroles, and Parties, fent on Discovery.

THE officer commanding patroles, or parties fent to gain intelligence, will take all the precautions enjoined to the private huffars, and non-commissioned officers.

Should it be necessary to gain possession of a height, occupied by a small number of the enemy, he should draw near it, at first, with the greatest secrecy imaginable, and then should ascend it rapidly, to drive the enemy off it. As foon as he has discovered what he wanted to learn, he must retreat. In such circumstances, he may leave some of his worst mounted men, if possible, upon light grey horses, at the entrance of a small wood, or of fome village, through which he must pass in Should he have a trumpet with his retreat. him, he may also leave him in his rear, with one, or two men. When these men see the patrole pursued by the foe, they must hew themselves in different places, and the trumpet must blow. When in this case you wish the

. the enemy to suppose your force to be strong. er, than it really is, your cavalry should be drawn up in one rank, having the two files on each flank covered. When infantry happens to be upon the skirts of a wood, it may also be drawn up in one rank; or if you have a hill before you, the men's heads, and muskets, should alone be left in fight; but in such a case, you must be sure, that you will have it in your power to change your disposition, before you are attacked. If the enemy has recourse to a similar stratagem, when opposed to a detachment, and the officer commanding it withes to know, to a certainty, whether the force, thus displayed, is real, or apparent, he may order an attack to be made by his best mounted men. He may rest assured, that if it is a stratagem, the enemy will quickly alter his disposition.

You may also, when pursued by the enemy, destroy the bridges, or block up with waggons the entrance of the villages, which you shall have passed through. In these operations, the best mounted men should be employed; and when they have completed them, they

they will rejoin the worst mounted, whom in the mean time you will have got forward.

If the detachment is to return by the same road, which it went, the officer should leave a man, or two, at the defiles, and the passages of bridges, with orders to discharge his carbine, if the enemy gets possession of them with a view to cut off his retreat; and then to fall back briskly upon the detachment. This must be done also, when you make patroles towards the enemy along a river; you should place a man, or two, at all the bridges, and fords, or passages, that they may apprize you, if the retreat is cut off, so that you may take another road.

Should the officer be obliged to reconnoitre an enemy's camp, he must endeavour to discover its position, and on what directions there are rivers, and whether there are swamps, woods, mountains, or villages near near those rivers; and he must try to learn, upon how many lines the enemy is encamped; what is the extent of his front; where the head quarters are situated; where the commissional and artillery waggons are; whether the

the camp is intrenched, or not; what villages there are in the front, and upon the flanks of the camp; whether the enemy has advanced posts, of what troops they are composed, and where they are placed; what are the productions of the country; and the nature, and quantity of the articles, which the towns and willages furnish to the enemy, and to what spot they send them.

If the officer, ordered upon discovery, is obliged to go to a distance, he must furnish himself with provisions and forage for some days, that he may not be under the necessity of entering the villages to procure them. however, he should be forced to send a party upon this errand, he must endeavour to contrive that it shall be at night. He must order them not to stop any time, and to pay scrupulously for every thing. officer commands, in the night time, the advance guard of a stronger detachment than his own, he will follow all the precautions enjoined in the instructions to non-commissioned officers. He will also take care to leave a man, wherever the roads cross each other,

that those, who come after him, may take the fame road.

If, in the night, you are obliged to march near the enemy's posts, or to pass before them. you should at intervals cover the slank; which is exposed, with small parties, each of 5, or 6 men, which may check the enemy's approach. If the officer, who is ordered upon a patrole, has markimen, or infantry in his detachment, he will make the following difpolition, as foon as he draws near a wood! he will only leave a corporal and a few huffars in his front; he will then order his infantry to march, and then his cavalry; the flanking patroles, the advanced, and the rear guard will be of foot; and he will place a corporal and a. few hustars in the rear of the whole, as was done in the front.

At night, he will march in the order enijoined above; and by day, the cavalry,
wherever it is possible, will march in the
open grounds, and the infantry along hedges
and through villages, and such places as afford
the most cover. If you are attacked in the
night, the horse must fall back behind the
soot, which, when it has repulsed the soe by its
fire,

fire, should open for the horse to pass through it, and pursue.

These two kinds of troops will afford each other mutual support, when care is taken to make use of them, each on that sort of ground, to which it is adapted. For instance, if infantry is posted in the villages and at the defiles, through which your retreat is to be made, it will render it persectly secure.

, If the officer, to whom a commission of this nature is intrusted, has with him infantry, cavalry, and hussars, he should make the latter march at least a mile a head of the rest, and should employ them in reconnoitering on every side; and he should support them with the eavalry, if it be needful.

If you have no plain, or open country in your front, in which the cavalry may be placed, it must be left within reach of some wood, or defile, where it may support the infantry in the retreat.

If the whole distance, you have to go, is in an open country, you must not take the infantry with you for more than a mile and a half; for should it go farther, it would not have cartridges

cartridges enough to defend itself during the whole time of its retreat, if compelled to make one, and would confequently run the rifk of being taken. But if there is nothing but defiles, and woods, cavalry is absolutely useless. If, after you have gone five or fix miles, you descry the enemy, and there is still a wood, or a defile, which you must necessarily pass through, in order to get near him, you must then make the infantry come on, and order the cavalry to remain in the open country. If you find there is a superior force in the defile, which obliges the infantry to retire, you must cover its retreat, by charging vigorously with the cavalry every thing, that attempts to iffue from the wood, or defile; in the mean time, the infantry will be gaining ground; and, when your horse is compelled to retreat, it must do it in the best order posfible, and must always rally under cover of the fire of the infantry.*

If you have an extensive plain to pass over,

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[•] It is an invariable rule for horse to rally behind a defile, and not before it.
E. of P:s. Infirmations.

and the enemy succeeds in separating you from your infantry, it is to be supposed, that it has found means to retreat, either along the hedges, or through the thickets; and you must clear your way with the hussars, rally behind the nearest defile, and there wait for the infantry. In these cases, a part of your men must charge the enemy, whilst the rest passes the defile briskly; those, who pass it the first, must form at about a hundred paces beyond it, facing towards it, and must place a few men to the right, and to the left, to flank. the enemy; the party, who charged him on the other fide of the defile, then joins that, whose passage through it facilitated. Whether you pass through the defile when advancing, or retreating, you must observe, never to suffer the whole of your party to be in the act of passing it in the same time.*

In

Extend your line by ordering the rear rank to double, and form upon one wing; the other must touch upon some wood, or inclosure, so that its extremity may not appear; and O 2 between

^{*} If you fall in with a superior force, it is often more advisable to stand your ground, than to make a precipitate retreat.

In croffing bridges in your retreat, you will: follow the precepts laid down for passing through defiles.

between each division of infantry, march a couple of horses, which will appear to draw your field pieces.

The cavalry must form in rank entire, with a couple of files two deep on each wing. A part of your infantry must be detached to secure the nearest defile in your rear; the rest must file off gradually, quickening its pace when out of fight of the enemy; when they have had sufficient time to reach the defile, your cavalry may retreat as expeditiously as they please.

K. of P's Instructions.

CHAPTER VI.

On furlorn Detachments.

THE object of forlorn detachments is to obtain intelligence of the enemy, or to carry off fomething belonging to him, either by getting upon his flanks, or by slipping between his posts.

The officer, who commands such a party, should be perfectly well acquainted with the country, and know the enemy's position precisely.

The party should be composed of trusty, and intelligent men, some of whom should be disguised, that they may with greater ease be sent upon discovery.

He must always march by night, and with the precautions enjoined to patroles in that case.

If obliged to make use of guides, he must invariably take two; and it is extremely advantageous to have spies.

He, first of all, sends forward 4, or 5 men, and a guide, under a non-commissioned offi-

cer,

thing that passes within reach of him; to apprize the officer of it; and, as much as possible, to avoid suffering himself to be discovered. The detachment follows this non-commissioned officer; and between them should be ment, marching at intervals, if required. The greatest care must be taken to keep the men awake, and to hinder them from talking, or making a noise.

Towards evening, spies, or foldiers in difguile, must be sent to learn of the country people the position of the enemy; but they must be careful to go a round-about way.

By day, the officer must send some of his men to climb up into trees; and by night, he must make some of them lay down amongst surze, or fern, or whatever cover there is.

K. of Ps. Inflenctions,

A party

[•] When he is in danger of being observed by the enemy, he must retreat filently; and the whole party will then file off to the right and left, and let the enemy pass.

K. of P's. Instructions.

These men are to have strict orders not to challenge, when the advanced non-commissioned officer sends any one with a report to his officer.

A party like this, should be furnished with provisions, and forage, for two days. The officer should have his horses baited every fix er nine miles, but only in bye places, and after he has posted sentinels, who can see whatever is going on to a great diftance. If the officer is obliged to fend to a village for forage, he will detach a non-commissioned officer, and 2 or 3 hussars, thither in disguise. When they have collected all that they want, they must pay for what provisions they have had, and give a receipt for the forage; the non-commissioned officer will then have every thing conveyed to some out-of-the-way foot, and fend back those, whom he has employed. in the carriage. This must always be done towards the evening. As foon as they are gone, the non commissioned officer will have his horses loaded with forage, and apprize his officer, who will keep upon his guard, whilst he has the remainder carried off. This must be done in such manner, as not to enable the enemy to discover where the party is.

If the non-commissioned officer is attacked whilf he is getting the forage together, he must

must retreat by round-about ways, and take what forage is already loaded with him.

The officer, at the head of such a party, should know with precision, in what space of time, and by what roads, the enemy can get at him. He should also calculate the time, which he would require to go to any certain point; and he should never stop in a village. A compass, and a watch, are extremely necessary for an officer, to whom a commission of this nature is consided.

As foon as he is discovered by the enemy, if he perceives that he cannot execute the orders he is entrusted with, by main force, he must make a speedy retreat; this he must equally do, should he have been able to execute them. If the party is attacked by superior numbers he must retreat towards woods. and fuch places, as are most impracticable. If the enemy occupies all the outlets, he may remain concealed, for some days, in a forest, as the enemy may then imagine, that he has made his escape, and may abandon his position. Lastly, and in the case of an absolute necessity, when no other feasible refource remains, he may order his party to disperse,

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disperse, after having pointed out to them some place, at which they are to re-affemble, and to which he must be sure, that there is an outlet.

CHAPTER VII.

On the Conduct to be held by an Officer sent out to make Prisoners.

THE officer will march with the same precautions, as those enjoined to patroles; he must pay the must unremitting attention to keep his detachment out of fight; and he should alone, and on foot, afcend fuch hills, or heights, as are best adapted to his views; and, unless the ground is inclosed with hedges, in fuch a disguise as will hinder his being known, and make him to be taken for a countryman. He should choose such a position, as will not oblige him to guard himself by vedets, who would necessarily cause him to be found out. and yet be such, that he might see from it all that passes in his neighbourhood, and to a great distance. If he perceives a body of the enemy, not much stronger than his own, or P patroles,

patroles, or flying parties, he must let them come sufficiently near to enable him, by attacking them briskly, to take some of them prisoners; but, if he is persuaded, that he has remained wholly undiscovered by them, he must suffer them to advance quite up to him, that he may furround them with the greater He must lay in a good stock of patience, and not let himself be wearied out with waiting, lest, through too great precipitation, he should miss his object. If he fees people coming towards him from the quarter, in which the enemy is, instead of reconnoitering them in the usual manner, he must fend out one man only, to meet and interrogate them; this man must approach them by roundabout ways, and should be master of the language of the country, and by disguising himfelf, if necessary, be able to pass himself off as a friend.

In the night, the officer will take all the precautions enjoined to patroles; he must watch the enemy's advanced guards, with a view to attempt the carrying off some of their patroles. If this fails, he must endeavour to steal as near as possible to their posts. He

may

may even, if requisite, send one or two of his people as far as their yedets, with orders to declare themselves deserters, that he may be enabled to approach them with greater fecurity whilft they are busied in asking the usual questions. His men ought to be at this time well collected together; and as foon as he is discovered, he must charge as briskly as possible, and is sure of obtaining his end. As foon as he has made himself master of some prisoners, he must retreat with the greatest rapidity, as he has carried his point. As foon as he thinks himself out of danger, he must try to obtain what information is necessary; and should promise the prisoner, whom he questions, his liberty, if he tells truth, but threaten, that he shall have his brains blown out, if he endeavours to deceive him. He must not give implicit credit to what he fays, but must strive however to distinguish what is true, from what is false. As his object is to bring back prisoners, if he has taken such a number as to cause him to apprehend, that he cannot carry them all off with fafety to the body, from whence he is detached, he may fend off before him, under P 2 a guard

a guard composed of some of his best mounted huffars, those, from whom he imagines the most positive information can be drawn. In those cases, in which it is palpably clear, that he cannot carry off the remainder of the prifoners, he should offer to the officers to set them free upon their parole; but previous to their being released, he should take engagements from them, figned by each of them, and one befides from the fenior officer of their party, drawn up as a certificate of the number of men, whom he shall have set at liberty with them, in order to fecure their being exchanged against an equal number of prisoners of the army, to which he belongs. In no case should he leave either officers, or men, their horses; he should rather have them killed, if the carrying them off is impracticable.

If the officers make any difficulty about fubmitting to the above mentioned conditions, they may then be treated more harshly, and even be threatened to be put to death, should the party be attacked.

When an officer is to march upon an expedition of this nature, he should take with him the most trusty men; and as it frequently happens,

happens, that the dread of losing his money renders the bravest soldier a coward, it is adviseable, if he suspects, that any man going upon his detachment has a good deal of money about him, to induce him before he sets out, to leave it in the hands of the paymaster of the regiment, who must give him a receipt for it in due form.

The officer who is ordered to make prifoners, should also, if requisite, make use of the means, which will be pointed out in the following chapter.

CHAPTER VIII.

On Ambuscades.

THERE is no country which does not offer places, in which ambufcades may be formed. Ravines, quarries, or pits from which it is easy to get out, the least rising ground, woods, hedges, ruined houses, vineyards; Indian corn, hop grounds, morasses covered with reeds, indeed every thing offers resources to him, who knows how to take advantage of them.

The

The officer, who wishes to place his party in ambush, must be careful to conceal his defign with the greatest secrecy, and to make a good choice of his ground:—He must repair to it in the night, or at the dawn of day, only; and before he occupies it, he must remember to have it reconnoitred, lest he should himself fall into an ambuscade.

When he comes near the place, where he means to take post, if in going thither he has followed a high road where he may have been discovered, he will draw up a small party with a front equal to that, which his whole party presented, and will order it to continue to advance along the fame road; when this party has marched about a mile, or a mile and a half, it must disperse, and rejoin the remainder of the detachment by circuitous ways. This party is fent forwards in order to draw the enemy into the ambuscade; and it is a necessary precaution, in order to hinder him from judging by the track of the detachment, where it lays in ambush. If you pass through meadows, you may order some of the men in the rear of the detachment, to drag boughs of trees after them, to esface the prints of the horses feet.

When

When the officer has posted himself, he must take care to conceal himself in such a manner, as to hinder his being discovered by any means. If he is in a wood, he will by day place his sentinels upon trees; and if on a plain, he must place them upon the rising grounds nearest at hand to his party, in order to inform himself well of whatever takes place. The sentinels upon the rising grounds, must lay down with their faces to the earth. In the night, he must resort to all the precautions which his experience and understanding suggest.

During day time, the whole party must have their horses bridled, and be always ready to mount. The officer must have the roll of his men frequently called, lest any one should slip away, to carry intelligence to the enemy; should this happen, he must immediately retreat, or change his position.

The officer must take care not to put himfelf in motion too soon. He must watch his time well, especially if the business is concerted with a view to draw the enemy into the ambuscade.

If any of the enemy, or country people, come

come up to a party in ambush, the officer must keep them close to him, and be very attentive not to allow any of them to escape in the night. He must enforce the deepest silence, and the most perfect stillness amongst his men. No one must make the least noise, and, still less, any fire. Some of his sentinels must lay with their faces to the ground, and with their ears close to the earth, that they may hear to the greater distance. He must relieve the out-posts oftener than usual, on account of the fatigue and constraint the sentinels suffer.

If the officer should have reason to suspect, that the enemy knows of his position, he should change it instantly, or retreat altogether.

When an officer has formed an ambuscade, there are many means he may employ to draw the enemy into it; for instance, he may send on towards him some of his bravest and best mounted men, under a non-commissioned officer, whose orders should be, to advance slowly, so as to husband his horses; if he meets waggons, he must make it appear, as if he wished to take them, or he will have some brought off to him, from the nearest villages; if this does not determine the enemy, he may seign an attempt

tempt at discovering his position, and even attack his advanced guard; if he fucceeds in putting him in motion, he must retreat, but in such a manner, as to draw the enemy on to be close at his heels; he may also leave some men in the rear of his party, who should feign being wounded, and unable to follow the others: if the enemy comes near him, he must halt, as if with a view of succouring them, but really with that of luring him on more effectu-When at length the enemy has nearlycaught him, and has been drawn on as far is. necessary, and the rest of the detachment is come up, the officer will order him to face about, and will charge the enemy on all fides at the same instant.

If the officer has a stronger party, than has just been supposed, he may have recourse to the following plan, to draw the enemy into an ambuscade: he should send forwards an officer with forty or sifty men, into some village near the enemy, whilst he himself should march upon the slanks of this small party, with the whole remaining force, and as near at hand to it as possible. The officer at the head of the detached party should immediately occupy

the village, place his posts as usual, and make his men dismount, but without quitting their horses; he will then collect together the head men of the village, and the peafants, and order them to furnish and carry off a quantity of forage; he must strictly forbid, under the feverest punishments, any of the peasants going out of the village; he may also send some of them to the neighbouring villages, with requifitions for forage, commanding them, should the enemy have intelligence of his detachment, to state it to be much stronger than it really is. These messengers being dispatched, he must have as much forage as possible carried off. His vedets should be in front of the village, and himself and the rest of his party bohind it. The enemy, whom the peasants will be fure to apprize, will not fail to attack him: upon this, he should retreat with his waygons, which he will endeavour to keep, until he has drawn his purfuers into the ambush. He must then face about, and attack the unfulpeding enemy with the greatest briskness, at the same moment with the main party, which will have kept in ambush.

CHAP-

CHAPTER IX.

On the Escorting a Convoy.

THE escort being affigned to the convoy for its protection, and to conduct it in fafety to its destination, the only object of the officer who commands it, should be to cover it, to avoid fighting as much as possible, and not to do it but when compelled, and then with vigour; and whatever advantage he may in that event obtain over the enemy, he must not purfue him, but on the contrary, continue his march, as foon as he can do it without danger. The officer, to whom such a commission is confided, must neglect no means of being apprized of the enemy's motions; and in that view will push forwards his patroles upon all the roads, by which he might come upon him, and upon all the heights, from whence he might see him. He must never divide the escort into small parties, but must form it into several bodies, according to his numbers, making each as firong as possible. He will place one at the head, another in the rear, and

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the others on the flanks of the convoy, so that they may be able to succour each other, and join in one body, if requisite. He will make the waggons and carts advance with the most extended front, that the ground will allow of, and will give a particular charge to those officers, and non-commissioned officers, whom he shall have appointed to that duty, to see that the waggons keep always close together, and in good order; he must invariably observe to place the worst teams at the head of the convoy.

If the convoy is to pass through a defile, or a hollow way, the commanding officer must fend detachments of infantry to occupy the head of it, and the heights which lay along it; whilst this is doing, he must have the waggons drawn up in the most extended front which the defile will permit, and will form the escort in order of battle to cover them; taking care, if it is on his rear, that he has the most to sear, to place the greater part of his foot on the hither side of the defile, to cover the passage of it; if it is in the direction to which he is marching, that the enemy will find it easiest to attack him, he must send the

efcort to the furthest side of the desilé, to protect the convoy, whilst issuing from it. As soon as the whole has passed it, he will resume his march; and the troops forming the escort will again take their original stations. The commanding officer should exert himself to the utmost, to hinder the enemy from approaching near enough to oblige him to suspend his progress.

If, however, the enemy's superiority is such, as to prevent his continuing his march without danger, he must order all the carriages to be halted, and formed into a park, in such place as he deems most advantageous, and in which he must remain, until he has compelled the enemy to retreat by his vigorous desence, or until he has received assistance. The way of forming the carriages of a convoy, into a park, is to arrange them in a square, within which, the horses, which are taken off, are placed.

When, for want of room, it is impossible to form a park of the waggons, they must at least be made to double up, so as to diminish the length of the column.

In either case, if you have infantry, you must place a part of it behind the waggons, which, serving ferving as a parapet, give it a great advantage over the foe.

If, in the moment at which the efcort is hard pressed by the enemy, or the convoy is in a desile, any of the waggons break down, the loads of them must be expeditiously divided amongst the others. The broken waggons must be dragged off the road, and the horses put to such carriages as are most in need of them.

When the convoy halts, for the night, the commanding officer must have the waggons formed in a park on some open, and unincumbered spot, and must occupy, with his troops, all the points and outlets, at which he can best cover it.

Supposing the park of waggons to be equally in security, on the hither side of the village, or rivulet, near which he means to pass the night, or beyond it, he should form his park beyond it, as it is always advantageous to pass the desile whilst actually in march, and whilst the carriages are in sile. But this arrangement of convenience should always be held subordinate to the safety of the convoy.

All,

All, which has been here enjoined, concerns every officer, who commands the efcort of a convoy, whatever be the number of troops under his orders; but, if he has with him only 50, 100, or 150 horse, he must act with re-doubled attention and forefight. He should place a small number of men at the head, and in rear of the convoy, and have one, or two, on the flanks of the column, to make the carriages file off, and keep in good order. He must send some more, as scouts. to those points, from which, whatever comes towards the convoy, may be seen at the greatest distance; he must post himself, with the rest of his detachment, in the most exposed place, from whence he will repair wherever his presence is called for.

It is under circumstances of this nature, that it is more effential, than in all others, to have the ground, which you have to go over, and that, which lays on the flanks of your march, thoroughly explored during the whole of it.

As the officer, to whom this fervice is entrusted, should be perfectly acquainted with the country, he should know which are the spots,

fpots, at which the enemy could attack him with the greatest advantage, and should make before hand all the dispositions necessary for his defence. He must give to every one very distinct orders, as to what he will have to do in every case, which can occur.

In general, it is effential, upon whatever fervice an officer is ordered in war, that he should foresee, and combine, all the different means of attack, defence, retreat, &c.

CHAPTER X.

On the Conduct to be held by an Officer, commanding the Chain of a Forage.

ALTHOUGH the chain of a forage is always commanded either by a Field, or General officer, it is necessary for an officer of hussars, that he should be acquainted with the whole of the dispositions, which should be made on that service. By far the first of these is to calculate the extent of ground, which should be comprehended in this chain; this is in proportion to the fertility of the country,

carry, and the quantity of forage required. The weight of fuch a truls, as each horse can carry, is usually reckoned at about 5 ewt.; an estimate is to be made, how many square yards of the ground to be foraged it will require, to surnish the weight of forage wanted; with this calculation must be combined that of the number of horses, which are to be sent to the forage.

When this estimate is made, the ground, which it is intended to surround with the chain, should be reconnoisered; and the different ways leading to it should be carefully ascertained, that the troops may be stationed accordingly; these troops should set off early enough for the chain to be posted, and all the reconnoiterings completed, before the arrival of the foragers. The troops, forming the chain, should be so placed, as to be in sight of each other, and the vedets within shearing of each other.

If you have infantry, endeavor to post it in such places, as are most suitable to it.

Before the chain is placed, the whole country two or three miles round, should be reconnoitered, in every direction, by the R hussars;

hustars; whilst this is doing, the remaining troops should be drawn up in order of battle, on the most advantageous spot.

When the reconnoitering is completed, the hustars must continue on the outside of the ground, occupied by the chain of the forage; and all the while it lasts, they must make patroles in immediate succession, one after the other. Their commanding officer will order their report to be transmitted to the officer commanding the whole of the forage, who, as soon as he is certain that they have seen nothing, will form the chain as prescribed above, and will take care to keep a reserve nearly in the centre of such points as are most exposed, that he may assist whoever happens to be attacked.

This precaution is the more effential, as the enemy attacks a forage at once in feveral places at the same time, so that you cannot draw off the troop, from any one, without danger.

In a hilly, or mountainous country, the infantry must occupy the heights, and defend the entrance of the narrow passages between them;

them; it should also be posted in the vislages if there are any.

If the enemy makes one, or more attacks, the small escorts of each regiment must form to their own center, to cover the foragers, who should at the same time assemble also, by regiments, in the center.

If you fucceed in driving back the enemy, you must have him followed, that you may be sure of his retreat; and the foraging must be pursued. If, on the contrary, the chain is broken, and you find yourself compelled to retreat, the foragers must be sent off the first; and the rear guard will be formed by the troops of the chain.

When it happens, that the foraging has been effected without interruption, the officer commanding the chain, should not assemble the troops composing it, till all the foragers are off the ground it surrounds. But, as each regiment, or squadron, should have its own ground marked out, as fast as they go off, the chain should be contracted, in order to give it more consistency.

As the chain of a dry forage should be R 2 chiefly

chiefly composed of infantry, what is required of it lays, strictly speaking, out of the line of an officer of light troops.

The great object is, to prevent the people of the villages, which are to be foraged, from giving the enemy intelligence of your plan. In this view, guards must be posted in them the preceding evening, to hinder any person going out of them. The precautions to be observed, in forming the chain, are the same as those in green forages. If it is possible to have the forage brought out of the barns, and piled in heaps at the entrance of the village, before the foragers arrive, this will greatly accelerate the business. But, if this is impracticable, the number of barns, which it is to forage, will be allotted to each squadron, or regiment. As to the calculation respecting the trustes, it is usually computed, that a horse can carry about 5 cwt. and that the sheaves, upon an average, weigh from 40 to solbs. each.

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CHAPTER XI.

On the Conduct to be held, either in a Partial, or General Attack.

THE first object of an officer, who wishes to attack the enemy, should be to conceal his force from them, and to ascertain theirs exactly. If it is a body of cavalry, that he is to combat, and nearly as strong as his own, he must examine, whether the horses are tired, and whether the ground he marches on is good, or bad. He must endeavour to fall upon the flank of the enemy, and to effect it; must divide his men into two or three small bodies. In short, he must do the utmost to throw the foe into confusion, and to bring him on to fuch ground, as is unfavourable for him. he succeeds in this, he must charge him with the greatest vivacity, without losing time in making prisoners, until he has put him to the If the enemy should also divide his force into finall bodies, the officer must collect the whole of his together, and charge them one after the other. If he perfifts in remaining

maining in one body, and takes such a position, as cannot be turned, to attack him a-new, you must wait till he marches off, and find means to throw him into confusion with your skirmishers, that you may then charge him briskly, and especially, that you may get upon one of his slanks. If before the attack a small reserve can be formed, it should be entrusted to an intelligent non-commissioned officer, and concealed behind the main body; this reserve combines the double advantage of being able to defend whichever of your two slanks the enemy may endeavor to fall upon, and to repair wherever circumstances require.

If your party* is tolerably strong, that is to fay, of above 150, or 200 horse, you must always form it upon two lines, which must be kept at a distance of 100, or 150 paces from each other; behind the slanks, of the first line, you must place a small body on each side, which may protect them, and disperse in pursuit of the foe, after a successful attack.

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Befides his aide de camp, the commander must be attended by an orderly man from each squadron, that in case of need, his orders may spread at the same instant through the whole line.

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The first line should always attack with the greatest briskness. The officer, who commands the second, should pay great attention to all that passes in his front. If the enemy is forced to give ground, he is not to bring his second line into action. If, on the contrary, the first line is repulsed, he must advance to succour it, either with his whole force, or with only such a portion of it as may be necessary to support that part which had given way. He must exert himself especially in endeavoring to protect the slanks of the first line.

The officers, who command the small bodies, placed behind the slanks of the second line, may also sometimes be detached to molest the enemy; they will harrass him by skirmishers, who should fire upon him incessantly, and they will recur to every possible means of throwing him into consusion.

The officers who command the separate bodies, must in the attack pay the greatest attention to all general orders; and if any one does not hear them, he must regulate his conduct upon what is doing to his right, and lest.

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The attack once begun, each of them must charge with all possible vivacity, and must be very attentive to keep his men close together; he must never suffer them to disperse in purfuit of the enemy; but on the contrary, he must always rally them in order to charge whatfoever prefents itself before him. If he is placed upon one of the wings of the line, he must attack briskly either with the whole, or with half of his force, wholoever attempts to fall upon the flank of it. If he is in the fecond line, he must keep his eye upon the body in front of him, that he may support it, should it appear to give ground. Even should those by the fide of him run away, he must persist in charging no less briskly, as his own boldness and courage can alone get thim out of the scrape. When at length he has fucceeded in putting the enemy completely to the rout, he may fend off a small part of his force in pursuit of him; but he must always follow with the remainder in good crder, that the others may be able to rally to it.

The principles, upon which an attack should be made, vary according to the different objects, it may have, and of which the number

number is infinite. If, for instance, you mean to attack the enemy in his camp, you must be quite sure, that your force is superior to his, and that you shall surprize him, before he can get on horseback.

This fort of attack is generally made at break of day; the march against the enemy should be performed in the closest order, and with the strictest silence. The retreat should be secured by placing infantry to guard the passages, through which you are to return. You must always proceed slowly, till you are near their advanced guards; as foon as you are discovered by them, you are to charge them impetuously, that you may enter the camp pell-mell with them. You must then cut down all you meet; cut the halters of the horses; and set fire to the camp. The commanding officer must forbid both pillaging and making prisoners, until the enemy is completely routed, and without any hope of affiffance.

As these operations inevitably cause considerable disorder, in such cases, a body of men, drawn up in order of battle, must be left at the entrance of the enemy's camp, to

which you may be able to rally, and to conduct prisoners, when it is allowed to make any.

In such attacks, when it is in your power to fall upon the enemy from the rear, they are, in general, the most successful.

If the enemy is apprized of an intended attack of this nature, in time to form to receive it, it is necessary to conceal whatever superiority of force you may have, and to take all the advantages, which the ground may offer to you in that point of view. You may even make different squadrons close up together into one compact body, in order to hinder their numbers being judged of by their depth. When come to within 150 paces of the enemy, you must endeavor to distract his attention, by ordering your advanced guard to harrass him, and (whilst this is doing) your main body to follow it as expeditiously as posfible; this main body you draw up so as to fall upon the enemy's flanks. If he has made his retreat, in time enough to put it out of your power to come up with him, all that is requifite is, that you should command your advanced guard to follow him, with a view to pick up some of those, who lag behind, and that

that you should support it. But gréat care must be taken, when you come to woods, and intersected grounds, not to fall into ambuscades. If the enemy has a defile behind him, and he precipitates himself into it, you must have him pursued warmly by a part of your men, so as to prevent his rallying; but must always keep a sufficient number together in good order, left you should run the same risks, that he does. If the enemy makes a stand in a defile, you must order your flankers to turn him to the right, and left, lest you should get yourself into it inconsiderately. You may endeavor to collect information from deferters, or prisoners, by questioning them as to the nature of the defile, and as to whatever else you ought to know, threatening them, at the same time, to blow their brains out, if their accounts prove falle.

If the enemy has known how to make use of the advantages, which the ground may have offered him, it would be both useless and dangerous to pursue him, should you have defiles to pass through.*

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^{*} Huffars fhould always endeavor to avoid charging heavy hotfe, or dragoons, in front; the commanding officer should

If you can surprize a detachment of cavalry in a village, it is doubtless a favourable opportunity for attacking it; but whatever may have been its object in posting itself there, it will naturally have rather taken its measures for being apprifed in time of designs against it, than for defending itself there. You should therefore, if it be possible, place half of your party in ambush on the road, by which the enemy is to retreat, and attack fuddenly his advanced guards, which are on the other fide of the village. If you can enter the village pell-mell with him, he falls. an easy prey to you. If you find him mounted, he will probably put himself in motion, with a view to retreat; in this case, the detachment, which is in ambush, will watch the proper time for charging him, and will do it success-

fend part of his force to fall upon their flanks; they will probably upon this face to the right, or left, which must be his signal for a general charge.

Hussars may easily attack heavy cavalry, on an open plain, if they can fall upon one of its wings. If it aims at charging them in front, they must fall upon its slanks, or rear. But if its slanks are secured, it is highly imprudent to attack it at all,

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fully. But should the enemy try to defend himself in the village, or march to the assistance of his advanced posts, the detachment placed in his rear must then force its way into the village, which will necessarily render either the retreat, or the destruction of the enemy inevitable. Even when an ambuscade cannot be formed, no risk is run by attacking cavalry in a village, provided it is done boldly, and briskly. Night is extremely favourable to attacks of this fort; but care should be taken to have a piece of white linen put on the caps, helmets, or hats of your own people, that you may be able distinguish them. part of the detachment should always be left without the village to receive prisoners. With the remainder you should form an advanced guard, supported by the main body, and a small referve appointed to repair wherever the most refistance is made. The advanced guard will strive to avoid the enemy's posts; and as soon as it is discovered, it must fall upon him with the greatest rapidity, and must be followed by the main body.

Some of the most intelligent men must hasten to the quarters of the commanding offi-

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cer of the enemy to try to seize him; and your people must continue to move rapidly through the streets of the village, to hinder the enemy from forming.

In a business of this fort, it is very effential, and especially if the attack is made by night, to have a perfect knowledge of the dispositions the enemy has made, and to be acquainted with the ways leading to his posts, and the place he has chosen for his alarm post; because it is there in all probability, that he will endeavour to collect his men; and because it is of great importance to be before hand with him, and to hinder him from forming them.

When the detachment, which had stopped at the entrance of the village, perceives the enemy to be completely routed; it should detach some men to go round to the right, and left, so as to prevent those who may attempt to escape, from effecting their purpose.

It is very requifite, that you should give out fome word to your people, by which they may recognize each other in the night, so as to avoid any possible confusion; it is also highly essential to forbid all plundering whatever.

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The attack having proved successful, the prisoners must be placed under an escort of those horsemen, who are the worst mounted; and the retreat must be made in good order, and without loss of time; lest, for want of that precaution, you should let slip the fruits of your success.

* Those means, which are pointed out in the chapter respecting ambuscades, are

* Attacks upon hussars in quarters seldom succeed, unless they are surprized.

You must take peasants with you from the neighbouring villages, to break down the hedges; or order your advanced guard to go close to their barrier, fire, and retreat, and then fend some dismounted hussars to clear the way for the rest to enter the village, where the privates must be cut down, and the officers, if possible, seized.

The commanding officer will remain near his referve, put his prisoners in the front, and march off, if he finds that the enemy expects a reinforcement.

If the enemy occupies a village in your territories, and cannot be dislodged without very great difficulty, it should be set on fire, to burn him out.

These attacks should be made in bad or hazy weather, or just before the day breaks; but never in the dark, lest in the confusion you should destroy your own people.

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also such as may be made use of, with great advantage, in every fort of preconcerted attack.*

When the enemy is in cantonments, and an attack is to be made upon one of his quarters, huffars and light infantry will be fent to make false attacks, to draw off his attention from the real one. They must feign all the appearances of being in earnest; and if there are roads nearly in the direction in which they are marching, strong patroles of both must be sent along them; these will seem to be the advanced guards of columns; and must fall upon, and drive back the enemy's reconnoitering parties.

They must not endeavour to cut off a post; but, if it is a town, must approach within 2000 paces of it, and summon it in the most consident terms. A strong reconnoitering party must be sent towards it, and artillery and waggons, with scaling ladders brought up within 1200 paces of the weakest points; a brisk fire of artillery, and from the rangers, must be kept up, to draw the enemy's troops in the neighbourhood to the support of the post attacked, and their approach must be watched by patroles; when it is certain as the object in view is accomplished, the artillery must be sent off sirst, under a guard of foot and hussars; and the rest will follow, hussars forming the rear guard and slanking parties.

Lindenau.

CHAPTER XII.

On the Attack of a Convoy.

WHEN a party is destined to the attack of a convoy, the officer who commands it, is to make fuch dispositions, as to molest the enemy, and excite his apprehensions on several points at the same time. If his numbers are fuch as to allow him to hope for a favourable iffue, even when he shall have divided them, he should distribute them in such manner as to fall briskly upon the head, rear, and center of the convoy. If, on the other hand, he has not men enough to venture upon dividing them, he must bear with his whole strength upon that point in which the ground furnishes him with the greatest means of obtaining fuccess; and he will only make false attacks upon the two other points.

The inftant, at which a convoy issues from a defile, is one of the most favourable for attacking it. In this case, you must wait till some of the waggons are clear of the desile,

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and whilft the rest are still in it, for the time for charging it. When you cannot carry off the whole of the convoy, fire must be set to the carts; and if the horses also cannot be led away, they must be ham-strung.

If the convoy is marching on a plain, you must form several ambuscades, and attack the advanced, and rear guard at the same time, and with sufficient briskness to oblige the enemy to divide the troops in his center, and send them to the head, and rear of the convoy.—

If he commits this fault, you must then attack his center, and split the convoy in two; for when it is once thrown into consustion, the enemy will not easily remedy it.

If the convoy must go over a bridge, you should let it get upon it, before you attack it. When you begin to have a prospect of success, you should send some men along the sides of the convoy, to prevent the soldiers, or waggoners taking off the horses to make use of them in their slight.

This fort of attack should be made with the greatest vivacity, sword in hand, or with fixed bayonets, if you have infantry. No one must stop to make prisoners, but must cut down

all

all those who bear arms. If you succeed in routing the escort, you must only leave some hussars in the rear guard, and must make the waggons sile off as expeditiously as possible, and by the shortest road, towards the camp, or the nearest town in the possession of your army.

If the distance is such, that you cannot carry off the waggons without exposing your-felf to the risk of being attacked, you must cut the traces, make off with the horses, and set fire to the waggons:

The husiars sent in chace of the run-aways, must not pursue them above a mile and half, that they may be able to return in time to form the rear guard of the convoy, you have carried off.

CHAPTER XIII.

On the Attack of either a Green or Dry Forage.

WHEN you wish to attack a foraging party, it is effential to know the number of troops it is composed of, that you may be enabled to judge of the extent of the chain,

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and to make your dispositions accordingly. In this case in particular, ambuscades should be recurred to; you should form two or three at least, so as to have it in your power to attack the enemy on all sides.

These attacks must be made briskly. If the first you make attracts the notice of the enemy, sufficiently to induce him to bring up all his forces against it, you must take advantage of that instant, by breaking through the chain in some other place. If you are fortunate enough to succeed in this, a part of your troops must advance against the foragers, so as to throw them into confusion, and drive them towards the camp.

When the enemy is beaten, you should follow him far enough to prevent his returning to complete the forage; but you must also take care not to approach too near the place, where he may receive affistance, lest you should expose yourself.

In your retreat, the horses and prisoners you have carried off, must march at the head under an escort; the wounded, whom you must observe to have collected and placed upon the waggons, will accompany them.

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The rest of the troops will then retreat in good order; and the whole will take the shortest road.

The attack, as well as the defence, of dry forages, is more the business of the foot, than of the horse; but if the latter are employed in them, they must always be mindful, as well as in the attack of green forages, not to let themselves be discouraged by the failure of success in the first attempts. They ought to feel nearly confident, that, by dint of perseverance, they will succeed in hindering the completion of the forage, and consequently, that they will attain the object they have in view.

CHAPTER XIV.

On the Conduct to be held by an Officer ordered to lay a Country under Contribution.

THE first thing to be done, when a contribution is to be raised upon a country, is to examine its situation. If the army, from which the party is detached, covers it entirely, and and in such manner that the enemy cannot penetrate into it, the commanding officer of the detachment will receive the general's orders as to the quantity, and nature of the articles to be furnished; as to what hostages he is to take as securities; as to the threats he may have to hold out; and what military execution he may have to carry into essect; this last measure, however, must not be recurred to, unless the articles required are not surnished with punctuality.

Although his distance from the enemy frees him from any apprehensions, he must observe the precautions necessary for his safety. He must arrange matters so, as to make those villages which are nearest to the enemy, be the last of all to contribute, that the country people may not betray him. He must send out patroles, to obtain a certainty of what the enemy is about; whether he is quiet; or in motion; lastly, he will take his measures, so as to have the articles, to be furnished, dispatched off quickly, if it is requisite. He will give an account of every thing to his general, whose orders he will execute with all the precision

cision and expedition possible. If the country, he wishes to lay under contribution, is not so covered by his own army, as to put it out of the power of the enemy to get to it, the officer should be thoroughly acquainted with it, so as to know in what space of time, by what road, and in what numbers the enemy can reach it. He should also have a correct statement of all the villages, from which it is proposed to exact contributions.

The officer should be informed of the place. to which he can make his retreat, and where the depot is to be. He should try to come into the enemy's country by night, and by circuitous ways; he will then post forlorn parties upon all the roads, by which the enemy can get at him; and he must enjoin them to conceal themselves, until they deserv the foe, or till he fends orders calling them in. The officers, at the head of these parties; should know every day where their commanding officers, and where the other parties are, that they may fend them intelligence, if requisite; they must hinder all communication between the inhabitants of the country, and the

the enemy. As foon as the enemy advances, these forlorn parties apprize each other of it, make their report to their common commanding officer, and fall back upon the spot pointed out to them; this officer should give them a list of the contributions, he has demanded, that they may exact them by force, as they retreat.

The officer, who is ordered to raise contributions upon a country, should, upon his arrival there, fend off messengers with requifitions in writing for the articles to be furnished; these he causes to be followed by parties provided with duplicates of them, and who exact the contributions. These parties ought to be back on a day, fixed according to the time it will take the enemy to get at them. Besides this, sealed orders should be given to each of the parties; these they are not to open, but in cases of necessity; the second and third points of rendezvous are therein flated in cyphers. When it is necesfary to raise contributions, all pity is mischievous; and if money cannot be had on the spot, goods, horses, cattle, and even hoftages

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hostages (which however is the last resource) must be taken.

Sometimes it is necessary to have recourse to forcible means, and to chastise those who are obstinate.

If you are obliged to retreat, it must be done in the manner pointed out to Forlorn Parties.

If you have not had time to fend off to the country in your rear the money, and goods, you must have them carried off by double relays of horses. It is sometimes useful in fuch cases, if you are pursued, to divide the risk by not sending all off by the same road. If the country, which you are to lay under contribution, is usually full of the enemy's patroles, and parties, and if he endeavours to prevent the contribution taking place, it is then necessary to exact rigorously the completion of the deliveries, and to punish feverely those who are stubborn, in order to deter others by the fears, this will occasion. You must try to send off, on the spot, whatever you can draw from such a country as this; and it is, in this case, indispensably requisite

quisite to know it thoroughly; and whether the enemy comes in large detachments; how he treats the inhabitants; whether he is not afraid of exciting their hatred, or whether he spares them; and whether his forces are near at hand, or at a distance; on what days, and what hours he sends out detachments, or patroles. In such a position a good map, and good spies are extremely useful.

If, in this fort, of expedition, the officer has not a confiderable force, he must avoid dividing it too much. The best thing, he can do. will be to march with an advanced, and rear guard, and flanking patroles, as he would do if he was upon a discovery. He must always try to keep himself concealed, and enjoin to his flankers to ftop, as foon as ever they difcover the enemy; to apprize him of it; and to observe carefully, whether the foe does not change his route. He must never enter a village without having previously stopped in some small wood, or valley near it, from whence he must detach one or two non-commissioned officers, with fix or eight men. These non-commissioned officers themselves, must

must never penetrate into the village, but with the greatest precautions. The officer and the non-commissioned officers will place their guards in fuch manner, that they shall be able to discover the country occupied by the enemy; and moreover they will fend out frequent patroles; these patroles must never fhew themselves in the villages, must always conceal their march, and must strive never to lose fight of the spot, where the enemy is, but the officer must always remain in some fmall wood, in front of the village, which he intends to lay under contribution; he must shift his ground, as often as he deems expedient, lest he should be betrayed by a deserter, or fome other accident: but he will never do it without having apprized his patroles of it, that they may have it in their power to rejoin him, should the enemy attempt to surprise These precautions being taken, he will fend fome of his people to the village, the principal inhabitants of which they will bring to him; and in order to put it out of their power to judge of the strength of his party, he must hide part of it in the thick of the

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wood.

wood, to induce them to believe, that it is more numerous, than it appears to be.*

The officer will inform them, of what they must furnish, and in what time. If they seem to aim at gaining time, he must treat them with rigor; must detain with him one of the most respectable appearance; and send back the others, with threats to destroy every thing with fire and sword, if they are not punctual in obeying him.

The guards and patroles must stop all the people of the village, who attempt to go towards the country occupied by the enemy.

When the officer has received what he demanded, he must have it loaded upon waggons, and send it off to the army, under charge of a non-commissioned officer, and a few men, to whom he must give their route in writing. He will make the magistrates or principal inhabitants of the village furnish him with a certificate, particularizing what he has re-

ceived.

The rear of the party being hid in the wood, these strangers, who are thus unable to see where it ends, will naturally form an exaggerated opinion of its strength.

ceived. This certificate will ferve him for a quittance, when the general receives it.

The two non-commissioned officers must act in the same manner, and must deliver to their officer a certificate serving to verify, that they have committed no excesses. Their officer may also require, that they shall bring with them some respectable inhabitant of the place to which they have been, to attest it.

When the articles required are all delivered in, every man must be apprized, that they are about to be sent off; and the conveyance of them must be escorted to the army.

In case the enemy should have established a chain of advanced guards round the country, which you wish to lay under contribution, and it is found to be impossible to slip into it, no other means remain, than those of driving back the enemy's posts by main force, and then carrying off all the cattle; in this event however, the number of each description must be counted, that such persons, as come afterwards to acquit themselves of the contribution required of them, may be indemnished.

It is also fometimes necessary to point out

to the country people the roads they must take, lest the articles, they are to furnish, should fall into the hands of the enemy.

The officer, thus detached, will give in a most minute account of all his operations, and of every thing which he shall have received, to his general, who will then give directions for the use, to which all these contributions are to be applied.



THE END.

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